Thursday, December 22, 1960
Pausa 1, 1882(Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA

Thursady, December 22, 1960/Pausa 1, 1882 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Fertilizer Distribution Enquiry Committee

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*1054. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Punnoose:
Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Kalika Singh:
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shri Rami Reddy:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri B. Das Gupta:
Shri Kodiyan:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Halder:
Shri Achar:
Kumari M. Vedakumari:
Shrimati Renuka Ray:
Shri Damani:
Shri Maniyangadan:
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 165 on the 5th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the Fertilizer Distribution Enquiry Committee appointed to review the system of distribution of fertilisers in various States and to suggest measures, if any, for improving the system has, since submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) Details are given in the Report, a copy of which has been placed in the Library of the Sabha.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: In reply to a previous question the hon. Minister said that where co-operatives exist, distribution will be done through co-operative societies. May I know, where there are no co-operative societies, what methods have been suggested by the Committee?

Mr. Speaker: Is not the report available to the Members of Parliament?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is available, it has been placed in the Library.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members may like to have more copies. I have no objection to that. But if they go on asking with respect to a report that is available in the Library, as to what are the contents of that report, it is not right. The hon. Minister will make some more copies of the report available

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: My question has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow it. Hon. Members must bear in mind that it is not right to ask questions relating to matters with respect to which books or reports or other things are available in the Library or outside. If it is a text-book we cannot ask what are the contents of the text-book. The hon. Minister has placed a report on the Table of the House or in the Library. Hon. Members must make every enquiry to find out whether this is available, exhaust all that and then come to the House with questions.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Is it a fact that the Committee has said that the price of nitrogenous fertilizer in India is very high, compared to other countries and, if so, what steps are Government taking to bring down the price?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The Committee has considered that the price...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will consider the Committee's report first, and then I will allow them.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: This is a question which the Committee has recommeded. I want to know what steps Government is taking to implement the Committee's recommendation. The Committee has said that the price of nitrogenous fertilizer is very high as compared to any other country.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: All these recommendations are under the consideration of Government. They have all been forwarded to the State Governments. After getting their views these recommendations will be considered.

Mr. Speaker: When was the Committee's report received?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: In the month of August, on 31st August, I think.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. I will allow, God willing, a half-an-hour discussion on this.

Shri Kalika Singh *rose—*

Mr. Speaker: We will have a discussion in the next session. Hon. Members will come prepared with all this.

Shri Kalika Singh: One question about the distribution of fertilizers.

Mr. Speaker: I will allow him an opportunity. I will ask the Office to note down the name of Shri Kalika Singh and give him top priority.

Shri Kalika Singh: Sir, it will benefit the hon. Minister also for the half-an-hour discussion if he knows my question. The question is about co-operatives. In my district of Azamgarh in Uttar Pradesh, 43,000 bags of fertilizers worth over Rs. 1½ lakhs were found missing from the district cooperative federation godown and the police enquiry has been launched, and the concerned co-operative officer has been suspended. So, will the hon. Minister look into the matter and see that when the district co-operative federation are charged with the distribution of fertilizers such things do not take place?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: This is within the State's jurisdiction and it is for the State to take any action they want.

Som Hon. Members *rose—*

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I do not know where we stand so far as Parliament is concerned. So far, in the previous Government we thought with regard to subjects like Food and Agriculture, Education and Health, that the Centre may have no concern at all except for the purpose of co-ordinating. Here, they take all the responsibility. When it comes to the question of passing it on to the villager they say it is all a State concern. I am afraid the hon. Minister must also make enquries and see to it that such complaints do not come. The ordinary man complaints against this Government and that Government. He does not make a difference between the one Government and the other Government. When it is a question of distribution, when somebody takes it from here and does not distribute it properly, the hon. Minister must enquire whether really effect has been given to what has been sent from here. Now, grants are given. I am going to ask the Estimates Committee and the Public Accounts Committee hereafter to look into it as to how the grants are spent, whether they are spent properly or not. Therefore, it is rather an unfortunate matter; almost every day we are having something or the other here. Therefore, hon. Ministers must see to it that these complaints are passed on with their

own remarks to the State Government. Why should such a complaint come in?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That was exactly why the Central Government appointed this committee. There were several complaints about maldistribution, about commissions and all sorts of things. And the Committee has gone into these details. My hon. friend has referred to a particular co-operative society misbehaving....

Mr. Speaker: I agree. What I wanted to tell the hon. Minister was this. Instead of mentioning it casually here he may write to the Minister in the State. I request Ministers in charge of portfolios which are essentially State subjects, not merely to say "yes, I have done my duty here", but to pass on such individual complaints to the Ministers in the States. If they send, it will have a greater value than an hon. Member taking it up.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: May I know whether the hon. Minister knows that fertilizer allotted to the Orissa Marketing Co-operative Society is being sold in the black market and farmers are not getting it in Orissa?

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Minister will write to the Minister in the State; he will make enquiries during the intervening period and then come here so far as the implementation of the report is concerned.

I am not going to allow any more questions on this hereafter.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: May I know how far this report has been accepted by Government?

Mr. Speaker: This hon. Member is persisting. The hon. Member evidently did not follow what the Minister has said. The Minister has said that the report is being considered. I asked him myself the question as to when the report was received. He said it was received in August. He also said that he has sent it round to the various States for gathering information. What is the meaning of putting this question "how far it has been implemented"?

Next question.

Syllabus of the Orientation and study Centres of Training Officers

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*1055. **Shri R. C. Majhi:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of **Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to appoint a study group to go into the existing syllabus of the orientation and study centres of the training officers has been considered; and

(b) if so, whether study group has been appointed?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know whether their recommendations have been made to the Government?

Shri B. S. Murthy: The recommendations are now being examined in the Ministry.

Shri R. C. Majhi: What are the main recommendations made by the study group?

Shri B. S. Murthy: It will be better, after examination of the recommendations....

Mr. Speaker: It will be placed on the Table of the House. Next question.

Country Boat Co-operative Societies

\+

†1056. **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) which of the States have come forward to organise pilot Country Boat Co-operative Societies;

(b) what sort of help will be given by the Central Government to these societies; and

(c) in which of the States already there exist such private co-operative societies?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No State Government has come forward to organize Pilot Country Boat Co-operative Societies.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Kerala and Bihar. Replies from Governments of Maharashtra, U.P., and Jammu & Kashmir are awaited.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the Central Government has devised any scheme for helping these co-operative societies?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In pursuance of the recommendations of the sub-committee of the Road and Inland Water Transport Advisory Committee and subsequently of the Road and Inland Water Transport Advisory Committee itself, we have communicated our suggestions to the State Governments and have asked them to implement the recommendations as best as they can. But unfortunately we are not finding much enthusiasm for the establishment of such co-operative societies on the part of State Governments.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether country-boat owners in UP and Bihar have approached the Central Government for some help?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am not aware of it. Essentially this is a subject which falls within the jurisdiction of the State Government and they are responsible for it.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Which of the State Governments have informed the Government of India that the country-boat owners are not eager to have these co-operatives?

Shri Raj Bahadur: As a matter of fact what is needed is some financial assistance and, apart from that, ensuring cargo and also elimination of such handicaps as they suffer from at present. On all these counts I think the State Governments have got to take some initiative. We have been communicating with them to take necessary steps in this behalf for the promotion of co-operative societies. But, as I said, not much enthusiasm is there on their part.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: May I know whether Government has got any report or any idea of how these societies are functioning and what cargo they get in those States where co-operative societies are functioning?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I cannot enter into the details about that. I do not have any specific information, but by and large they have been functioning for some time under the patronage of the State Governments.

Shri Goray: Is there any limit to the tonnage which the country-boats will receive?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The tonnage is essentially limited by the draft available in the particular river or the inland waterway. I am not aware whether any limitations of tonnage as such have been imposed.

Mr. Speaker: Often we say that it is a federation. There are Assemblies in the States and there are responsible ministries. But there is a tendency, however much we would like to check it, of looking to the Centre. The old tendency of a unitary government has not yet disappeared. Therefore the people look to the Centre more as if it is an appellate authority even for all these things.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I, in all humility, suggest that that is why we placed this matter before the Road and Inland Water Transport Advisory Committee, which is a Central Organisation, placed our views before them and got them accepted? We recommended the idea of having co-operative societies to the State Governments. We have been writing to

them. All that lies in the power of the Central Government has been done.

Express Mail

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*1057. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Achar:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 58 on the 2nd August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision with regard to the question of changing the existing rules for express mail;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the time likely to be taken for taking such a decision?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) No decision has been arrived at as yet.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is anticipated that a final decision would be taken in the course of a few months.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether there is also a proposal under consideration to revise the charges for express mail?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: Yes, Sir. The whole matter is being considered because it is a matter of delivery by telegraph peons now and we find that it is not working satisfactorily. We want to change it to postal peons, but that would mean employment of more postal peons. Therefore the cost has got to be worked out before a final decision is arrived at.

Shri Bibhuti Mishra: I want to know whether Government has formulated any rules for post and telegraph offices in areas comprising of villages? To what extent will those people be served—whether six, seven or eight miles?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: This question is with regard to express delivery letters. If the hon. Member gives notice of a separate question, I will be able to answer it.

Shri Achar: What are the proposed changes?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I cannot say what the proposed changes are till they are considered by the P&T Board and a final decision is arrived at.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Is the hon. Minister aware that very often express delivery letters take longer to be delivered than ordinary postal letters? Why is that so?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I am sure the hon. Member realises that these are being delivered by telegraph peons from the central telegraph office concerned. Therefore sometimes these express delivery letters arrive even after the ordinary letters have arrived.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: May I know whether the Government is thinking of providing swift conveyance to express mail deliverers in cities the population of which is more than one lakh?

Mr. Speaker: He suggests that they may be provided with conveyance.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: We are considering the whole matter. As I said, the P&T Board is seized of it and they will make proposals in the end which the Government may or may not accept.

Shri Tyagi: Has the Government been able to make a rough estimate of the revenue derived from the extra stamps affixed to these express delivery letters?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: We have made no estimate, but now I believe they will go into the whole matter to find out what the cost will be if we are

to deliver it expeditiously through postal peons.

श्री खुशवक्त राय : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि क्या इस बात पर कोई विचार किया गया है कि . . .

Dr. P. Subbarayan: The hon. Member knows English as well as I do. He may as well ask his question in English because I do not understand Hindi.

Shri Khushwaqt Rai: His junior colleague understands Hindi.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: But I would like to hear the question myself so that I may be able to answer it.

Shri Khushwaqt Rai: In that case I will ask it in English. Is there any proposal to deliver these express delivery letters from the post office through postal peons?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: This is a matter which is being considered now, namely, what the extra cost would be if there were more postal peons to deliver these letters.

Shri Goray: The general complaint being that the express delivery letters reach later than ordinary letters is the suggestion that they should be discontinued altogether also going to be taken into consideration?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: The whole matter is being considered. If we find that the expenses will be too much and we will not be able to meet the extra cost, we may discontinue the express delivery letters.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: What exactly is the point of having a special surcharge for express delivery letters if no special arrangements are made for the transport and delivery of letters in quick time?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I have already said that special arrangements have been made to have them delivered through telegraph peons, but that has not worked satisfactorily. I admit that. Therefore the whole matter is being reconsidered.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister that express delivery letters may be abolished altogether and in their place have Sunday delivery so that it will be made easy to send letters on those days?

Mr. Speaker: The same question was asked just now. Hon. Members may send their suggestions to the hon. Minister. I am sure he will consider them. Shri Hem Barua. If it is also a suggestion that he is going to make, he need not.....

Shri Hem Barua: No, Sir. May I know whether any record of express delivery letters is maintained or not because it often happens that when the letters is not delivered and a complaint is lodged they say that they do not have a record of it?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: As a matter of fact express delivery letters are signed for by the recipients when they are delivered. Therefore we have a record of such letters.

Shri Hem Barua: I did not mean that. Suppose a letter is posted by me. It is my own experience that it is not delivered to the addressee. When I lodge a complaint saying that on the 2nd November I wrote a letter to Shri So-and-so, it was an express delivery letter and was not delivered, they say, "We do not have any record to find that out". That is my own experience.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore hon. Members should post them under a certificate of posting.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: There is no record of posting of such letters but there is a record of their receipt.

Rajasthan Canal

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*1058. { **Shri M. B. Thakore:** **Shri Karni Singhji:**

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have finally decided to extend Rajasthan Canal to Kandla Port through North Gujerat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). No concrete proposal for extending the Rajasthan Canal to the Kandla Port has come up before Government. The Technical feasibility of such a proposal has yet to be investigated.

Shri M. B. Thakore: May I know its length, its estimated cost and the area through which it will pass?

Shri Hathi: The length of the whole Canal will be about 425 miles. The first stage as sanctioned for the project will cost Rs. 66·47 crores. The area will be Rajasthan.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the press this morning that the Rajasthan Feeder Canal is drying up due to the Indo-Pakistan Canal Agreement and that digging work on the Rajasthan Canal has stopped due to the scarcity of water? Even for drinking purposes there is no water for the labourers who are working there.

Shri Hathi: I have no such information.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: How long will it take to supply sufficient water to the Suratgarh farm from the Rajasthan canal?

Shri Hahi: The project will be completed, as I said, by 1968-69—first stage. But, some portion will be receiving water in 1961.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I seek your protection, Sir? In this morning's papers I saw this. I did not give an adjournment motion as you are requesting us not to do so. The hon. Minister says that he has not looked into them. It is said that the digging work in the canal has been stopped, for, the canal is not getting water. The news is that they are trying to dig up certain tube wells for drinking water. Will the hon. Minister at least enquire into it and see that the work is not stopped?

Mr. Speaker: I get about 20 papers every day. There are 16 States and rulings are given by various Speakers. Many things are happening in those Assemblies as they happen here. I am not able to look into every one of them. If I put the same question to the hon. Member, how many papers he reads, I do not know what he will say. There is no meaning in coming to the House and saying, this morning I saw this and that. Possibly, the hon. Minister has to do much more other work than merely looking into papers.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the extension of this canal to Kandla port is going to be utilised for irrigation purposes or for both irrigation and navigation?

Shri Hathi: As I said in the reply, the technical feasibility of extending it to Kandla is yet being examined—for both.

Many Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: Not one of those hon. Members comes from Rajasthan.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: There is one point. The hon. Deputy Minister said that the construction is likely to be completed by 1968-69 whereas some water will become available in 1961. May I know whether adequate water for navigation also will become available by 1961?

Shri Hathi: No; in 1961, it is only irrigation.

Shri M. B. Thakore: May I know whether the supply of water will be affected because of the Indus Canal treaty?

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether there will be any shortfall in the supply of water. How was this asked? It is not in the Indus water basin?

Shri Hathi: There will be no difficulty for supply of water from the Rajasthan canal because of the Canal Water treaty.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether there is any proposal to provide lift irrigation projects along this canal with a view to provide irrigation facilites to the arid area?

Shri Hathi: It may be considered for some areas.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: How much land will be brought under cultivation—how many acres?

Shri Hathi: Thirty-six lakh acres.

Mr. Speaker: Next question. If hon. Members go on with supplementaries, the Members who have taken all the trouble to table questions are elbowed out. This is what is happening. Some hon. Member puts a question. Other hon. Members who do not care to put questions, catch hold of the opportunity and go on.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: Even if questions are put, they are being made into unstarred questions and therefore, we do not get an opportunity to ask questions.

Mr. Speaker: Ten thousand questions are coming. If everything becomes starred, I do not know if there would be too much of dazzling light here.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: We are submitting questions; they are made unstarred.

Purli-Vaijnath-Latur Link

***1059. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 670 on the 12th August, 1959 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken regarding the linking of Purli-Vaijnath with Latur;

(b) if so, the nature of decision arrived at; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The question of connecting Latur with Purli-Vaijnath is linked up with the conversion of Kurduwadi-Miraj-Latur Section to B.G. or M.G., which is under examination.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Exactly after a year, the same reply the hon. Minister is giving. May I know when the decision with regard to the Latur-Kurduwadi-Miraj line which has been included in the Second Plan for conversion into M.G. or B.G. will be arrived at?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It may be so. First of all, it was sought to convert it into B.G. Then came the suggestion that the question of converting it into M.G. also could be taken up. Both reports are submitted. For the conversion of Kurduwadi-Miraj-Kolhapur section into B.G., the cost is about Rs. 10 crores. If it is metre gauge, the Miraj-Kurduwadi-Vaijnath line would cost about Rs. 11 crores. If it is converted into B.G., the return is only .98 per cent. If it is converted into M.G., it is only .89 per cent. The Latur-Purli-Vaijnath section alone, 39 miles, costs Rs. 2.81 crores. None of these conversions is financially justified.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know what considerations weighed with the

Government when they included the conversion project in the Second Plan?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It is always open to revision. When we find that it is not paying, we have got to reconsider again.

Shri Goray: This is a very important question. Because, when we ask why is it that amenities are not provided at Kurduwadi for the pilgrims going to Pandarpur which is one of the most well known pilgrim centres in India, the answer is that we are re-considering the whole scheme. Therefore, no amenities whatever are provided for the pilgrims. Now he says that the scheme is not going to be undertaken. So, the people are pushed from pillar to post.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The reports are under consideration of the Board.

Swami Ramananda Tirtha: Will the hon. Minister state whether the conversion of the Miraj-Latur line into Metre gauge and its extension to Purli-Vaijnath will reduce the overall distance from the north to the south for goods traffic and economise the whole process?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: This question does not arise in the context of the Khandwa-Hingoli link which is in operation now. The distance is short in that way and all the goods will be moving along Secundrabad line and not along this.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow an argument on this matter. The hon. Minister feels like that. I have allowed him to give details. He has worked out the details, .98 per cent., .87 per cent. and so on.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Totally wrong.

Mr. Speaker: I cannot allow him to displace the Minister. He must come in due course and become a Minister and then come to conclusions. All that I can allow is, why he has not taken up a particular matter. Further arguments won't be allowed. Next question.

Magnetic Storms

*1061. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any disturbance in radio communication in the first week of October, 1960 due to magnetic storms;

(b) if so, what difficulties were encountered; and

(c) whether it affected the radio transmission in this country?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Yes, Sir, there was some disturbance in the radio communications in the first week of October 1960 due to magnetic storms.

(b) Due to the magnetic storm, a number of radio communication circuits were affected. The difficulties encountered were in the nature of wide fluctuation in the strength of received signal, technically known as fading. At times the signals completely faded out.

(c) As in other countries, it did affect the radio transmission in this country also.

Shri P. K. Deo: May I know how long the storm lasted? Is there any device in this country to detect the storms in advance?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: There is no such device in any other country. It is a very difficult thing to calculate.

Shri P. K. Deo: How long it lasted?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: It lasted 12 to 17 hours.

Coal Transport

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*1062. **Pandit D. N. Tiwari:**
Shri Bimal Ghose:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has asked Government to make proper arrangement

for transport of 85 million tons of coal per year during the Third Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether the Railways have accepted the responsibility; and

(c) whether proper arrangements for increasing the carrying capacity of the Railways are being made?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Draft Outline of the Third Five Year Plan includes provision for rail transport of coal corresponding to a production of 95 million tons by the end of Third Plan, exclusive of the needs of Bokaro Steel Plant. The estimate of the rail transport for this production would be approximately 85 million tons.

(b) and (c). The Railway Plan will make provision for this transport capacity subject to following conditions—

(i) Allocation required for developing the required capacity might need radical changes when details of anticipated direction-wise movements of coal from the various fields are finally decided.

(ii) A substantial proportion of coal for consignees other than steel plants is moved in the new bogie wagons between the collieries and coal dumps to be set up in major consuming centres, and

(iii) overhead bunkers are provided in major collieries for quick loading of block rakes of the bogie wagons.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: The hon. Deputy Minister has given three conditions. May I know what steps are being taken to fulfil these conditions, whether they are in the process of being completed, or there is likelihood of their not being completed and the coal transport suffering?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: On our part we have done certain things, and certain other things remain to be done by the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel. We have referred these matters to them. On our part, we have provided for additional rolling stock, increased line capacity and new lines and sidings. As could be seen from the draft Plan, we have provided Rs. 183 crores under these headings, but then the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel has also to do certain things. One of those things is the creation of dumps for non-steel plant users, and this, I understand, the Steel Ministry is taking up with the several States.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: May I know what additional allocation would be required to fulfil these?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The Steel Ministry has been asking us to lift 95 million tons. We have been submitting that we will lift only 85 million tons, because the balance will be moved by roadways and part of it will be consumed by the collieries themselves. The Steel Ministry is arguing that there should be a cushion of 10 million tons. For that, we have told the Planning Commission, Rs. 58 crores will be needed in addition to the Plan. The Planning Commission has negatived it, and the Finance Ministry has also supported that stand.

Shri Bimal Ghose: May I know if the railways failed to move the coal that they were expected to carry during the Second Plan period; if so, why?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It has been repeatedly pointed out in this House that the wagons are provided by us and that the allotment of these wagons is with the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel, i.e., the Coal Controller. We move the wagons. So far as we are concerned, we have been moving, of late, about 5,000 wagons per day as required by them. The question of allotment is with the Ministry of Steel Mines and Fuel.

Shri C. D. Pande: In view of the fact that at present the Railway Ministry has to handle only 53 million tons of coal and as things are the situation is not satisfactory, has Government or

the Railway Ministry taken steps now to handle the present traffic, not to talk of the 85 million tons during the Third Plan?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: We are fully competent to handle this traffic because we are thinking in terms of new types of wagons, we are thinking in terms of this centre buffer double couplers also and diesel engines which will haul 3,000 to 3,600 tons as against the present load of 1,800 to 2,250 tons by steam locos. We have explained all these things, and it will depend much upon the steps taken by the sister Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members want to know how the hon. Minister is going to meet the growing demand of 85 million tons. What steps is he taking during the Second Plan period to lift 53 million tons before he goes to 85 million tons during the next Plan? The Second Plan is coming to a close, and the target of 53 million tons has not been reached. The hon. Minister says there is a target of 85 million tons for the Third Plan period, but the hon. Members ask: when you have not reached this target of 53 million tons during the Second Plan, how is the target going to be reached during the Third Plan. What is the answer to that? That is what they want to know.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I submit that some time back there was some difficulty about wagons, but for the past five or six months we have been placing at the disposal of the Coal Controller 5,000 wagons per day and we are lifting whatever is loaded.

Mr. Speaker: Are they sufficient to lift all the 53 million tons which is the target for the Second Plan period?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The Coal Controller had asked for only 4,800 wagons. We are putting at his disposal 5,000.

Shri Tyagi: The situation is too bad. Do not press him too much, Sir.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I submit there is no fault on our part. We are placing 5,000 wagons per day at their disposal.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Deputy Minister is clear on the point. He says the Coal Controller wanted only 4,800 wagons and the Railway Ministry has supplied and has been supplying 5,000 wagons. Therefore, he repeatedly says we must ask the other Ministry.

Shri Raghunath Singh: I have a very important question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Shri Raghunath Singh.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: On a point of order. The Minister has been pleading as if there are two Governments here, one the Railway Government and the other the Steel Government. On the floor of the House such a plea cannot be raised, as if there was difference between the two Ministries within the Cabinet. Whether it is the responsibility of one Ministry or other, we are not concerned with it. The responsibility is collective.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: In 1957 or 1958 your predecessor had ruled that there could be no point of order during the Question Hour. I do not know whether it has been amended. I am raising this point of order on the point of order raised by him.

Mr. Speaker: Unfortunately, my predecessor passed away in 1956, not in 1957 or 1958. Therefore, how he gave a ruling in 1957 or 1958 I do not understand.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: It may be earlier.

Mr. Speaker: I cannot prevent any hon. Member saying it is a point of order, but once an hon. Member says something here, I must see whether it is right or wrong. How does he assume I am going to accept the point of order?

What I would request is this. The Question Hour is a non-official hour. It is not only part of Friday that is

non-official business. Every day the first hour is non-official hour. It is peculiar to parliamentary practice and parliamentary institutions. It is not so in America. In Australia on the spur of the moment questions are put and Ministers are bound to answer. If he does not do so twice or thrice, thrice, the Prime Minister goes in for some other Minister in his place.

Shri Goray: Then we will have to change very often.

Mr. Speaker: This country is too big. That is why we have given ten days notice, in spite of all communications. I request hon. Ministers to keep their Deputies here so that they may watch. This is Cabinet responsibility. They cannot bring about a committee or a meeting between the Minister of Steel and Minister of Railways. It is not physically possible for them. Therefore, the Deputies should be present to know what actually happens and then iron out the differences.

Shri Raghunath Singh: My question is very important.

Mr. Speaker: Next question. This comes up again and again.

Shri Raghunath Singh: I may be allowed to put my question. It is a very important question.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow. Hon. Member cannot catch hold of the House like this.

Shri Goray: In this House this question of short supply of coal has come up again and again and you know, Sir, only a few days back the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel said that the steel factories as well as the fertiliser factories were suffering because of lack of coal. Now, apparently the impression was that the coal was not being lifted by the railways. Now, the Railway Ministry says they have done everything. Can you not devise some way by which the two Ministries will come together and satisfy us as to who is in the wrong?

For, it is the Five Year Plan which is suffering.

Shri Tyagi: It is only mismanagement.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel is here now. If he is not in position to answer it today, I would request him to answer it tomorrow. It was only a few days ago that we had a discussion on coal in this House, that is, with regard to transport of coal. Hon. Members naturally ask the question whether the target that has been fixed for the next five-year period would be fulfilled. The Deputy Minister of Railways said that the railways are taking all the steps, and that some steps have to be taken by the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel. One hon. Member put a question as to how, when even the present target of the Second Five Year Plan has not been reached, there will be any chance of the target of 85 million tons during the next Plan period being fulfilled. The Deputy Minister of Railways said that the railways are supplying 5000 wagons to the Coal Controller, even though he had asked for only 4800 wagons, and, therefore, so far as the railways were concerned, there was no question of default. When the question was repeated not once but twice, the Deputy Minister of Railways said that we must ask the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel.

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): I am here, Sir. If any question is put to me, I shall answer.

Shri Goray: We had been putting questions, but the hon. Minister was not here. Now that he is here, he can answer.

Sardar Swaran Singh: If hon. Members put any questions now, I can answer. I cannot answer questions which I have not listened to.

Mr. Speaker: I have given *in extenso* what has happened. If the hon. Minister has got an explanation which will satisfy this House, he may kindly do so.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Let him make a statement.

Mr. Speaker: The point is that coal is in short supply. It may be because transport facilities for coal may be wanting, but the hon. Deputy Minister of Railways has said that so far as transport is concerned, there is absolutely no trouble, and, therefore, we must ask the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel.

Sardar Swaran Singh: What is the question that I should answer?

Shri Tyagi: The question is this. The Coal Controller wanted only 4800 wagons so that he could supply everywhere, but the Railway Ministry had supplied instead of 4,800 wagons about 5,000 wagons. How is it that in spite of this, coal is not being lifted?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: 5,000 wagons, of late.

Sardar Swaran Singh: The wagons that are supplied are being used. The fact of the matter is that the number of wagons which are available and which the railways can supply are not enough to move the entire coal for the entire country. It is a question of arithmetic; the number of wagons that are supplied can move only a certain quantity. Each wagon can move a certain fixed quantity. The number of wagons that are available is fixed by mutual consultation with reference to the places at which those wagons can be supplied, the various collieries at which they can be supplied, and the various railways over which they can be supplied. Therefore, there is no conflict at all between the railways and the Coal Controller. Whatever is the best arrangement to use all the available wagons at the various places is being made, and those steps are being taken.

Shri Tyagi: There is no co-ordination.

An Hon. Member: On a point of order.....

Mr. Speaker: There is no point of order now.

Shri Muhammed Elias: Let us have a separate discussion on this. We have spent more than fifteen minutes on this question already. There are many more important questions to come up.

Mr. Speaker: I shall settle this matter. We have heard the Deputy Minister of Railways saying that whereas the Coal Controller wanted only 4,800 wagons, the railways have been supplying 5,000 wogans.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Of late.

Mr. Speaker: If the Coal Controller had asked for more, then, we can certainly ask the Railway Minister why that was not supplied, but the railways supplied much more than what the Coal Controller wanted. Therefore, if coal is not removed, it is on account of want of demand on the part of the Coal Controller. We are unable to understand this position.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not think there is any question of the Coal Controller demanding any particular number and the railways supplying more than that. The number is settled by mutual consultation. I do not know what the Deputy Minister of Railways has said, but I am in touch with the Railway Minister and the Railway Board, and my officers, that is, the Coal Controller and the officers of the Department of Mines and Fuel are in touch also with the Railway Board, and the number of wagons that they can make available is arrived at by mutual consultation. There is no question of the Coal Controller asking for 4,800 wagons and the railways supplying 5,000 wagons. The number is always settled by mutual consultation. Whatever number the railways can supply and whatever the coal controller can use is fixed from time to time. Therefore, there is no question of asking for something and more being supplied.

Shri Tyagi: May I take it that the estimates of both these Ministries were wrong?

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow any further questions now. Both the Ministers will sit together once again, go through the proceedings of the House on this particular question and try to iron out the differences. If there is short supply, the House does not say that you must bring it from heaven. All that the House says is that this matter must be looked into. One hon. Minister says that the wagons supplied are enough, while another says that the number is settled by mutual adjustment. Let this matter be looked into once again by both the hon. Ministers, in view of what has been said in this House today. I do not want to pursue this matter any more.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I make one request to you? Let them place a joint statement on the Table of the House tomorrow on the position. The fact is this....

Mr. Speaker: There need be no hurry over this. Now, next question.

Rail Link Between Kathua and Jammu

*1064. **Shri Inder J. Malhotra:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 192 on the 5th August, 1960 and state:

(a) the nature of steps taken or proposed to be taken to provide rail link between Kathua and Jammu; and

(b) when the actual construction work will start?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The construction of a line from Madhopur to Kathua only has been approved. No extension of the line beyond Kathua has been approved. A reconnaissance Survey to examine the traffic prospects of further extension of the line beyond Kathua has recently been sanctioned.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: May I know at what stage the construction of the railway bridge at Madhopur is?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: We have just located the place, and we are yet to start construction. I may tell the hon. Member that the work will be completed in about two to three years.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know when the traffic survey of the line between Kathua and Jammu will be completed?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It has been sanctioned only in October, and it will take its own time.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know when it was surveyed, when the work is going to start, and what the amount allotted for it is?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Does the hon. Member mean the extension of the line?

Shri Raghunath Singh: Yes.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The work will be taken up as early as possible, and as I submitted earlier, it is going to be completed in about two to three years.

Mr. Speaker: What is the amount that is likely to be spent on this?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The amount has not yet been sanctioned. The estimate is for Rs. 1·77 crores.

Shri A. M. Tariq: May I know when this project was taken up? It had been decided originally that this line will go from Madhopur through Kathua village or town. I think, now, they have decided that it will bypass Kathua and it will go outside Kathua. If so, may I know the reason for the same?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: We have been in consultation with the other Ministries concerned, and this has also got the approval of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Shri Raghunath Singh: The question is: when there is Kathua City, why is not the railway line touching that City and why is it going 6 or 7 miles away from the City? Also which is the Ministry they are going to consult?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It is not 6 or 7 miles. It is only 3 miles. We have been in consultation with the Ministry of Defence.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Is it not a fact that the railway line from Delhi to Chandigarh does not touch Chandigarh town? What efforts will be made to connect Chandigarh town by railway

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: How does it arise out of the original question?

Non-Scheduled Permits to Private Air Companies

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*1065. **Shri Muhammed Elias:**
Shri Sadhan Gupta:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Dasaratha Deb:
Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether non-scheduled permits have been issued by the Central Government to private Air Companies to operate passenger and freight air services;

(b) if so, the number of such permits issued;

(c) how many of the services, operating on such permits, are run on the basis of fixed time-tables; and

(d) under what law such permits have been issued.

The Minister of Transport and Communications: (Dr. P. Subbarayan):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Seven.

(c) The non-scheduled operators do not publish any time-tables of their services.

(d) Under sub-rule 3 of Rule 134 of the Indian Aircraft Rules 1937.

Shri Muhammed Elias: Out of the 332 airfields in the eastern zone, how many are used by the private airliners and how many are looked after by the Civil Aviation Department?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I have not had a calculation of that.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Though they do not publish their time-tables, may I know whether these non-scheduled operators conduct their flights regularly, either daily or bi-weekly or tri-weekly and so on? If so, is that not against section 18 of the Air Corporations Act?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I do not think it is against 18 of the Act.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Do they conduct regular flights?

Shri Ranga: How can a non-scheduled service be regular?

Shri Sadhan Gupta: They do conduct regular flights.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: As my hon. friend Shri Ranga, has pointed out, a non-scheduled flight cannot be a regular flight. They fly when they can get passengers. Sometimes it happens that they fly twice a week, sometimes thrice a week and so on. As long as they have their licence, we cannot prevent them from doing so.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Under the Rules, there is no such terminology as 'non-scheduled permits'. May I know whether it is a special permit granted every time they come for renewal? If so, what are the special reasons for which such permits are given?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: As the hon. lady Member knows, special permits are given when we are not able to operate our own flights because of want of 'planes or because of the insufficient income we get thereby. Therefore, if any private operators are willing to fly according to the

convenience of passengers, we sometimes do allow them.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether these privately-owned and managed airfields have any radio communication services? If they do not, how are we to know whether the non-scheduled operators are using these airfields according to the rules, that is to say, there are radio communication services available when they land and take off?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: As far as possible, we do inspect these airfields and find out whether conveniences are available for landing, take-off etc. so that there may be no accidents. Hon. Members know that there have been really very few accidents considering the volume of the non-scheduled flights.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that there is a non-scheduled service to Jalpaiguri operating twice daily and a non-scheduled service to Chabua in Assam operating three times a week? If so, how is it that they are allowed to operate?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: They are allowed to operate whenever we think it is convenient for them to operate.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: That is against the law.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Member feels that any rule or regulation has been violated, he may bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: So many times it has been done.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: It has been brought to notice repeatedly by the Air Corporation Employees' Union, and yet nothing is being done.

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Member mean that while the licence permits only flights on a few occasions, they are actually flying more often? What is the point?

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I shall read out the definition of a 'scheduled air transport service'.

Mr. Speaker: I am talking of the non-scheduled service.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: What is not scheduled is non-scheduled.

Mr. Speaker: What is wrong about the non-scheduled flights? What is the question?

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Under section 18 of the Air Corporations Act, a scheduled air transport service can be operated only by the Air Corporation and their associates, and a scheduled air transport service is defined as an air transport service....

Mr. Speaker: We are discussing the non-scheduled service.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: A scheduled air service is one where the flights are so regular and frequent that they constitute a recognisably systematic series. Operating twice daily or three times a week is certainly a systematic series and it cannot be a non-scheduled air transport service. I am asking how this is allowed to operate.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether this cannot be converted into a scheduled service, because in the name of a non-scheduled service, it is practically running as a scheduled service. Why should this concession be shown to them when there is need for a scheduled service? Evidently, the hon. Member is under the impression that these services are going on regularly; it is not an occasional flight for which provision has to be made by way of a standby and so on. Why should it be given to a private agency? Why should it not be taken up by Government? Is that the point?

Shri Sadhan Gupta: No, it should be taken up by the Corporation and not by the private companies.

Mr. Speaker: I said Government. That is all.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: We do not do it for the simple reason that we do

not possess a sufficient number of aircraft to operate these services.

श्री पद्म देव : अध्यक्ष महोदय, प्रश्न संख्या १०७४ बहुत जरूरी है और अगर इस को लिया जाय तो बड़ी कृपा होगी।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जी नहीं, माफ कीजियेगा।

Damages due to Rain on S. Railway

*1067. **Shri N. R. Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the damage caused to Railway tracks on Southern Railway due to incessant rains in the month of November, 1960;

(b) what is the amount; and

(c) whether Government have drawn up any programme to rectify the tracks to avoid in future such damages by floods or rains?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 1,36,000.

(c) No, Sir. Investigations are being carried out by the Railway, and if any additional water way or raising of track or other protection works are considered necessary, they will be undertaken on a priority basis.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: Government are aware that the track between Gudur and Madras gets damaged at certain points year after year even with a rain of 2 or 3 inches, and in consequence the GT has to be diverted *via* Arkonam and Ranigunta. Will Government prepare a scheme to strengthen that portion of the track at least so that the loss of time suffered by the drivers may be made good by running non-stop from Gudur to Madras?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I submit the premises are not quite correct. It is not year after year that it is taken place. Some three years ago there were exceptionally heavy rains. Again this year there have been exceptional rains. That is the reason for flooding of the track and the diversion of the train. We are talking necessary steps to see whether any further improvement is necessary.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: Has there been any loss of life as a result of this, and if so, has any compensation been paid thereon?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: So far I know, there is no loss of life.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that there was a breach in one of the big tanks near Madurai and a report has been sent to the Ministry to the effect that it is necessary to widen the bridge over the channel which takes the water from that tank? If so, what steps are Government going to take? I would also like to know whether in that area as a result of this breach, there was any accident, and if it was averted, how it was averted?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: There are thousands of bridges on the Indian railway system. It will be difficult for me to give information about that particular bridge. All I can submit is that if there is a report about it, certainly the Railways will look into it. They are looking into the whole question.

Shri S. R. Arumugham: May I know how many places were frequently damaged on the Southern Railway due to monsoon, and what permanent measures have been taken to avert damage to the railways?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Mainly there were five places. One is between Arkonam and Renigunta which, I submit, is in your constituency, at some places like Puttur and Nagiri. There are breaches also between Madras and Gudur, Renigunta and Gudur, Renigunta and Nandalur and Madras and Villepuram. Owing to heavy rains there has been damage to the track and the trains had to be diverted and sometimes discontinued.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: May I know whether it is not a fact that the breaches occurred only at the culverts and bridges where these tracks were very weak and where no proper inspection has been conducted?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The tracks are not weak. The bridges were constructed upon certain data and if there are exceptionally heavy rains, possibly water could not go through the waterways. We are looking into the whole question.

Shri Ranga: In the light of these floods and the resultant accidents, have Government decided to make any special study of the engineering aspects so that when they reconstruct these bridges they would be able to do it in such a way that hereafter there would not be this bottle-neck for the flood waters to pass through as a result of which these accidents are taking place?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: As the House is aware there was a Commission appointed and they have submitted a report which is under scrutiny.

Postage Stamp

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*1068. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that a recent commemorative postage stamp which contained a quotation from Kalidasa's "Abijnanshakuntalam" gave the Sanskrit translation (by some subsequent commentator) of the original text in Prakrit; and

(b) why the actual words as used by Kalidasa were not reproduced?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The sanskrit rendering (Chhaya) was especially chosen in preference to the original text in Prakrit having regard to the fact that Kalidasa's works were largely studied in sanskrit rather than in Prakrit.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know if Government has any mechanism for finding out apt quotations to be taken from our classical writers for the purpose of commemorative postage and also why it is that there is any distortion which should not be practised in regard to classical writers when we are supposed to quote from them?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: We are consulting a committee of experts in Sanskrit including Dr. Raghavan, Professor of Sanskrit in the Madras University; and they suggested that it will be better understood by Sanskrit scholars all over the world if the rendering was in Sanskrit and not in Prakrit.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Do we not owe it to our classical writers to quote verbatim from them when we quote at all and give the translation separately? Otherwise, it is rather irreverence to them because Prakrit is also used for the purposes of conversation and dialogues in these dramas.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I well understand that Prakrit is really the dialogue from which is used in Sanskrit texts. All the same, I think experts' opinion should be respected.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Who are the experts who advised on this question?

Mr. Speaker: He has already said, Dr. Raghavan.

Shri Tangamani: The meaning of the passage that is quoted is:

"Thy heart I know not;

But Love, Oh, cruel one, fiercely inflamed by thee,

Day and Night, my limbs and desires are centred on you."

Whatever may be the case, the character has spoken in Prakrit. Will the hon. Minister consider that at least in future the original verbatim texts of our classical writers are retained and not transalations by experts whom we have got at present?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: The brochure is already out and I think it has been well accepted by the rest of the world. Therefore, this is really a suggestion for action which I will consider.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS

Indians in Addis Ababa

S.N. Q. 8. Shri A. M. Tariq: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to ensure the safety of Indians in Addis Ababa where rioting has taken place even in streets; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) No.

(b) The latest telegram we have received from the Embassy reports that all Indians are safe. A coup d' etat was staged in Addis Ababa on 14th December, by the Emperor's Bodyguard, during the Emperor's absence in Brazil. The question of our taking any special steps to ensure the safety of Indians can hardly arise in the circumstances. Our Diplomatic Mission always has the responsibility to do every thing possible towards this end.

Shri A. M. Tariq: May I know if the Ministry of External Affairs have received any report from our representative as to how it happened there and may I also draw the attention of the Prime Minister . . .

Mr. Speaker: Nothing happened. So far as the Indians are concerned, nothing happened.

Shri A. M. Tariq: About the whole.....

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow that question. The hon. Member only wanted to know if our Indians are safe; and the hon. Prime Minister has said, they are absolutely safe.

Shri A. M. Tariq: I would like to know whether the Ministry of External Affairs were posted with the events in Addis Ababa and whether our Ministry has received any report about the happenings there.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We have reveived brief telegraphic reports.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know the number of Indian nationals and people of Indian origin at present in Abyssinia?

Mr. Speaker: All that does not arise. Every Indian is safe.

Utilisation of Natural gas from Naharkatiya Oil Fields

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S.N.Q. 9. { **Shri Goray:** / **Shri P. C. Borooah:** / **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** }

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, even after utilising the associated gas from the Naharkatiya Oil Fields, about 16 million cubic feet of it will have to be flared;

(b) whether Government propose to consider a change in their policy of not allowing private sector to put the gas to use in the form of manufacturing petro-chemical products; and

(c) what is the amount of non-associated gas that can be utilised but will have to remain unutilised till the public sector is in a position to utilise it?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Approximately 38 million cubic feet per day of natural gas will be available for industrial and domestic consumption. The Expert Committee set up o recommend projects for the utilisation of the Naharkatiya natural gas has so far suggested 5 projects which will consume approximately 30.8 million SCFD of natural gas. Other projects

based on natural gas are under consideration. The exact quantity of natural gas which will ultimately be required by each project will be known after the detailed project reports have been obtained. Under these circumstances, it is not possible to say, at this stage, whether a flaring of natural gas, if any, will take place.

(b) The private sector is being associated with the setting up of petrochemical pjrojects consistent with the best intests of the State.

(c) Firm estimates of the availability of non-associated gas will be available after the development of the oil fields. The Expert Committee will also consider schemes for the utilisation of non-associated gas. It would be premature to say, at this stage, whether any natural gas would remain unutilised.

Shri Goray: May I know whether Government will allow even the private sector to participate in the utilisation of gas if they come to know that this gas will have to be flared up or wasted?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: As I said, a substantial portion of this gas is already under project studies and the Government of Assam are prepared to utilise that gas. Some portion of the natural gas is to be handed over to the private sector also. And, in this connection, some decisions have already been taken by the Commerce and Industry Ministry of the Government of India and, perhaps, soon Government will be indicating that.

Shri Goray: Is it not a fact that the Assam Government had prepared a scheme by which full utilisation of this gas would have been achieved and that scheme was supported by the Planning Commission as well as the Commerce and Industry but the Ministry to which the hon. Minister belongs turned it down?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is not a fact that some schemes were produced by the Assam Government which had the full utilisation of the natural gas under the State Government. But it is a fact that as we considered it premature to give our concurrence to all the schemes that were produced by the Assam Government, we asked them for time to consider the schemes. They have now been considered and we are still of opinion that a major policy decision has to be adopted, so that the quantity of gas that is there can be distributed between the public sector and the private sector.

Shri Goray: Am I to understand that all steps will be taken to see that the gas which is available and which can be utilised will not be allowed to flare up?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Some gas could flare up but we are taking all precautions to see that gas is not wasted.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether the Government will allow private sector to set up industries to utilise this extra natural gas?

Shri K. D. Malaviya I have alreay stated that there are certain proposals in the private sector which are under examination and which have been sanctioned by the Government of India.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: As the finalisation of the project suggested by the Government of Assam has taken so much time, may I know whether even these projects will be to utilise the gas only after two years after the gas becomes available and if so, what is the Government going to do about the gas as soon as the Barauni refinery goes into production?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: All these programmes were taken into consideration and I do not think there will be any wastage of gas on account of the decisions of the Government of India.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In view of the fact that gas is not available and there is still somtime left, what is the timetable whereby the public sector will be utilising this gas

also? I also want to know whether the bulk of it will be used by the public sector or by the private sector.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The bulk will be used by the public sector.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether any assessment of the associated and also of the non-associated gas there has been made?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Estimates have been indicated by the Assam Oil Company: they are not final.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know if the petro-chemical industry going to be set up has received a licence from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and if so whether there is any liaison between the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and also why this licence was given when it is not in the Government policy to allow this industry in the private sector?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The licence, presumably I speak subject to correction has been issued by the Commerce and Industry Ministry but the whole matter was considered by both the Ministries and there was full co-ordination so far as the decisions were concerned.

Shri Basumatari: May I know the date by which the project is likely to be set up?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am not at all in a position to specify the date or month when these projects will be started.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that the hon. Minister has said that the policy matter is yet to be decided while replying to the question about the Assam Government's preparing the plans for utilisation of the gas in the public sector, may I know whether these schemes were submitted by the Government of Assam and were accepted by the Planning Commission also and if so why is it that the hon. Minister says that the policy matter is yet to be decided? In what respect is it to be decided after a statement has been made? Gas is ready for utilisation so far as Assam is concerned.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There are larger areas from which natural gas, associated and non-associated gas are likely to be produced. In the broad perspective, we will have to consider as to which pattern of division of work has to be entrusted to the private sector and to the public sector.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: In view of the fact that this industry is an important industry reserved to the public sector, what attempt was made to decide whether the whole of it could not be utilised by the public sector and after what attempt was it decided to hand it over to the private sector?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We have given fullest consideration to the entire problems involved in dividing the petro-chemical industry between the public and the private sectors. As and when the gas is ready for utilisation, such a division will be effected.

Shri Ranga: Am I to understand that while all these discussions are going on and the Government is taking time to evolve a policy and to come to a decision as between this sector and that sector, all this gas would not be wasted?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir; it will not be wasted.

Shri Goray: May I know whether the ENI of Italy who are likely to co-operate in exploration and utilisation of oil in a big way will be associated with this venture?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is premature to say whether we can come to some sort of an understanding with any foreign partner.

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका द्वारा चीनी का खरीदा जाना

अ० सू० प्र० १०. श्री खुशवक्त राय : क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका की सरकार ने यह निश्चय किया है कि वे क्यूबा से किसी भी हालत में चीनी नहीं खरीदेंगे; और

(ख) क्या इस बात के लिये प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं कि संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका भारत से चीनी खरीदे ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री स० का० पाटिल) : (क) सरकार के पास कोई अधिकृत सूचना नहीं है, किन्तु समाचार पत्रों से आभास होता है कि अमेरिका सरकार ने आगामी वर्ष के पहले तीन महीनों में क्यूबा से चीनी न खरीदने का निश्चय किया है ।

(ख) जी हां, इस दिशा में पहले से ही प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं ।

I may read it in English also.

(a) Government have no official intimation; but according to Press reports, U.S. Government has apparently decided not to buy any sugar from Cuba during the first three months of the next year.

(b) Yes Sir, efforts are already being made in this direction.

श्री खुशवक्त राय : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि संयुक्त राज्य अमरीका ने जो यह निर्णय किया है कि वह तीन महीने तक क्यूबा से शक्कर नहीं खरीदेगा, इस निर्णय को जानने के बाद आप ने क्या नये प्रयत्न किये हैं ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : हमारा जो सुझाव है वह इस चीज के साथ कुछ सम्बन्ध नहीं रखता ।

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Although we do want to sell our products abroad, in view of the fact that the buying of sugar from Cuba is a political question, should we from India enter into this political question and try to break this thing?

Shri S. K. Patil: There is no political question in this business because the USA buys sugar from 9 or 10 countries and its annual consumption also increases by 125,000 tons. Cuba has nothing to do with it nor any of these countries have got anything to do with it. No political question arises.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that USA is not prepared to take our sugar unless the quality is improved; whether they are interested in buying our semi processed sugar and if so what is the decision of the Government?

Shri S. K. Patil: USA pays about 50 per cent more than the world market price to all the countries from which she buys sugar. USA uses sugar of a higher polarisation. Either we can produce sugar with a higher polarisation: it is possible for us to do or our sugar can be processed in America. But the question does not arise at this stage because there is nothing tangible between the two countries: they have not promised to buy yet.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

House Building Co-operative Societies in Delhi

*1060. **Shri Khimji:**
Shri K. U. Parmar:
Shri Ramji Verma:

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of House Building Co-operative Societies in Delhi which have been allotted land by Government; and

(b) how many Societies have applied for land?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) It is presumed that the Member is referring to the allotment of land to House Building Co-operative Societies out of the 34,070 acres notified on the 13th November, 1960, for acquisition for the planned development of Delhi. If so, no Co-operative Society has so far been allotted land out of the 34,070 acres.

(b) 106.

Welfare Committees in P. & T. Deptt.

***1063. Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Commnications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Welfare Committees have been constituted in offices under the Posts and Telegraphs Department recently;

(b) if so, how the Committees were constituted; and

(c) whether elections were conducted for constituting such Committees?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Yes, since 1953.

(b) Nomination by the Head of the office from among the office staff known to be interested in such activities.

(c) No.

Dredging Problems

***1066. Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the help of any expert has been sought under the U.N. Technical assistance scheme for advising on dredging problems of India;

(b) if so, whether any recommendations have been made by him; and

(c) if so, what are those recommendations?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir. The services of a dredging expert from Poland have been secured under the U.N. Technical Assistance scheme for advising the Calcutta Port Commissioners on the dredging problems of River Hooghly.

(b) No, Sir. The expert's investigations are still in progress.

(c) Does not arise.

Air-Strip at Tirupathi

***1069. Shri Osman Ali Khan:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tirupathi Devasthanam Board has requested the Union Government to provide an air-strip at Tirupathi for the convenience of pilgrims coming from long distances; and

(b) whether Government have taken any decision in this regard?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Tirupathi is about 90 miles from Madras Airport and is well connected by rail and road. Construction of an aerodrome at Tirupathi will not, therefore, be justified from an All-India Civil Aviation point of view. Moreover on account of the topography and other technical considerations also it is not feasible to construct an air-strip at Tirupathi. The Tirupathi Devasthanam Board have been informed to this effect.

Restaurant at Dum Dum Airport

***1070. Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are serious complaints against the working of the airport restaurant at Dum Dum;

(b) whether these complaints have been investigated;

(c) if so, the result of such investigation; and

(d) whether the contract has been renewed for another three years?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) Yes, beyond 31-12-1960.

Tampering with Railway Track near Maniharighat

*1071. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether fish-plates from the railway track near Maniharighat were found to have been removed on the night of the 3rd December, 1960;

(b) whether there was any serious accident averted by the timely discovery of the removal of fish-plates;

(c) who was responsible for their removal; and

(d) whether the gangman who averted the accident is being suitably rewarded?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Not known so far. The matter is however, under police investigation.

(d) The question of reward, if any, will be considered after the result of police investigation is known.

Stoppage of Booking on S.E. Railway

*1072. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri N. B. Maiti:
Shri R. C. Majhi:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that passenger booking on the South Eastern Railway from Gidni, Jharagram, Surdiha and Chakulia Stations, both for up and down trains, has been stopped recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether stoppage of passenger booking during such time every year is an annual feature; and

(d) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to remove the difficulty?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes Sir, only on two occassions *i.e.* on 26-11-60 by Sambalpur-Howrah Passenger and on 8-12-60 by Hazaribagh—Ranchi—Howrah Express.

(b) Due to heavy overcrowding and with a view to avoid undue inconvenience to passengers.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Haldia-Khargpur Line

*1073. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 2,000 villages in the Midnapore District of West Bengal have been notified on the 17th November, 1960 in connection with the proposed construction of the Khargpur-Haldia rail link;

(b) whether the inhabitants of these notified villages are to be evicted in future; and

(c) if so, whether any programme for phasing of the operation and compensation for those affected has been prepared?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The Civil Authorities were requested to issue a notification for the purpose of survey and it was issued accordingly. The survey has however not been taken in hand pending a decision by the Planning Commission in the matter.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में आलू का बीज

*१०७४. **श्री पद्म देव:** क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश के आलू उत्पादकों का दो लाख मन से अधिक आलू का बीज शिमला और मंडी जिलों में बिना बिका पड़ा है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि बर्फ गिरने का मौसम बहुत पास आ गया है और आलू बोने का मौसम बहुत जल्दी समाप्त हो जायेगा ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि सर्दी के मौसम में आलू ही कृषकों की आय का एक मात्र साधन है ; और

(घ) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क), (ख) और (ग) के उत्तर स्वीकारात्मक हों, तो सरकार इस दिशा में क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

कृषि मन्त्री (डा० पं० शा० देशमुख) : (क) से (घ). हिमाचल प्रदेश उत्पादकों ने अपने उत्पादन का अधिकतर हिस्सा बेच दिया है। रिपोर्ट से मालूम हुआ है कि लगभग ८०,००० मन रेलवे मालगोदम, शिमले या पणन केन्द्र, थिओग में और लगभग २०००० मन जोगिन्द्र नगर जिला मंडी में पड़ा हुआ है ।

क्योंकि आलू के भंडार का अधिक भाग शिमले के रेलवे माल-गोदाम में पड़ा हुआ है, इसलिए बर्फ के गिरने से इनके परिवहन पर कोई असर न होगा । जैसा कि पिछले साल हुआ था, आशा है कि शिमले से आलुओं को विभिन्न स्थानों को भेजने का काम जनवरी १९६१ के प्रथम सप्ताह तक चलता रहेगा ।

किसानों के लिए सेब और अदरक को छोड़कर सर्दी के मौसम में आय के मुख्य साधनों में से एक साधन आलू है ।

आलुओं के क्रय और विक्रय का काम गैर सरकारी व्यक्तियों के पास है । प्रशासन प्राथम्य आधार पर आलुओं के परिवहन के लिए वेगनों की प्राप्ति में व्यापारियों की तमाम मुमकिन सहायता कर रहा है ।

Agricultural Commission

*1075. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Inder J. Malhotra:
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri Sarju Pandey:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 818 on the 26th August, 1960 and state at what stage is the question of appointing an Agricultural Commission with a view to survey all aspects of Agriculture?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): The matter is still under consideration in consultation with the State Governments.

Steel for Rangapur Road Bridge (Andhra Pradesh)

*1076. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of steel actually delivered to the State Government upto the end of October, 1960 out of the quantity of 1200 tons of steel required for the construction of Road bridge across the Krishna at Rangapur, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that progress of work has been slowed down on account of short supply of steel; and

(c) the total amount spent so far on this project?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A sub-quota

certificate for 1287 tons was issued to the contractors on 3-1-60.

(b) The progress has been generally slow, but this is not due to the non-supply of steel.

(c) The amount spent to the end of November, 1960 is Rs. 6,87,600 (booked expenditure) plus Rs. 61,000 liabilities incurred.

Derailment near Pipalia Station

*1077. **Shri M. B. Thakore:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 412 Dn. Passenger train was derailed between Pipalia and Dahinsara Railway Stations on 3rd December, 1960 on Morvi-Navlakhi line of Western Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. On 3rd December 1960 at about 6·45 hours, while 412 Down Passenger train was running between Pipalia Road and Dahinsara stations of Western Railway, five coaches of the train derailed. None were injured. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

Firing in Train

*1078. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Sarju Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 822 on the 26th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the enquiry into the incident of firing on 1 B.D.B. train between Bhiwani Khera and Sat Road Stations on the 27th December, 1958 has since been completed; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The police investigation into this incident has since concluded and the case remained untraced.

Khosla Committee Report

*1079. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1296 on the 23rd August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the Khosla Committee Report on Railway Bridges; and

(b) if so, what recommendations have been accepted?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes.

(b) Of the five recommendations made by the Committee as a short term plan, three have been accepted and already implemented. The other two have been accepted but can be implemented only after the results of actual field observations have been compiled and studied. The five recommendations suggested by the Committee in the long term plan envisage co-ordinated action in the future by a number of departments under different Ministries and action is being taken.

Medical Personnel

2225. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number of
  (i) hospitals;
  (ii) hospital beds;
  (iii) doctors; and
  (iv) nurses

in 1950-51;

(b) the plan targets for the above items for the First and Second Five Year Plans, the achievements during the same period together with the financial allocations and the amounts actually spent during the First and Second Plan periods so far; and

(c) the reason for the short fall, if any, in achieving the physical targets?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will, no receipt, be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Purchase of rice and Wheat from Madhya Pradesh

2226. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Centre for the purchase of rice and wheat from Madhya Pradesh during the period from May to September, 1960; and

(b) the quantity of wheat and rice purchased from that State during the above period?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas) (a) and (b). During the period 1st May to 30th September, 1960, the Centre spent approximately Rs. 2.83 crores on the purchase of rice from Madhya Pradesh. The quantity of rice procured and taken delivery of during this period was about 66,000 tons.

No wheat was purchased from Madhya Pradesh by the Centre during this period.

Production of Edible Groundnut Cake and Flour

2227. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 307 on the 5th August, 1960 and state at what stage is the proposal to set up two plants as pilot projects for the commercial production of cheap edible groundnut cake and flour?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): One oil mill in Bombay which will collaborate with the Government of India and the UNICEF in the implementation of the project has been provisionally selected. It is expected that the selection of the other oil mill will also be finalized very shortly. The projects are expected to go into production in 1961.

Mobile Medical Units

2228. **Shri Dharmalingam:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to introduce mobile medical units in the country; and

(b) if so, the number proposed to be established during the Third Plan period, State-wise?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No such scheme is included in the Central Third Five Year Plan. However, some States have included schemes to introduce mobile medical units in their respective State Third Five Year Plans.

(b) The requisite information is not available.

Overbridge at Ambala

2229. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of Ambala overbridge has been finalised with the State Government.

(b) if so, the progress made so far; and

(c) when it is expected to be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The actual execution of the work is held up due to necessary diversion-road not having been constructed by the State Government despite issue of several reminders. As such it is not possible to indicate, at this stage, when the work would be completed.

Agricultural Development in Delhi

2230. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total amount allotted to Delhi State for its Agricultural Development during the year 1960-61 so far?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): The total

amount allotted so far for Agricultural development, including development of Animal Husbandry, Poultry and Fishery, is Rs. 34.15 lakhs.

Income at Dera Baba Nanak and Qadian Stations

2231. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the income from goods and passenger traffic at the Dera Baba Nanak and Qadian Stations separately on the Northern Railway from the 1st April, 1959 to 31st March, 1960 (month-wise)?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 97].

Family Planning Centres in Punjab

2232. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the number of new family planning centres to be opened during 1960-61 in the Gurdaspur District of Punjab State and their places of location?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): One Family Planning Centre at Fatehgarh Churian in Gurdaspur District of Punjab State has been opened by the State Government during 1960-61. Information regarding new family planning centres to be opened in Gurdaspur District during 1960-61 is not available.

Irrigation and Power Potential of Indian rivers

2233. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2897 on the 29th April, 1960 and state the upto-date progress made in the work of overall study of the Irrigation and Power potential of the remaining river zones and sub-zones?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): Further to the information given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2897 on 29th April, 1960 the following progress has been made in regard to the studies:

Irrigation Potential

West flowing rivers falling into the Arabian Sea:

Rivers flowing into the Arabian Sea above Narmada and below Indus	Copies of the draft reports have been sent to the State Governments for comments and suggestions, if any.

East flowing rivers falling into the Bay of Bengal:

Pannar River .	The Draft report has been completed.

Brahmaputra Basin:

Brahmaputra river Basin	The Compilation of the report is in progress.

Power:

A Study of the power potential of the entire country has been completed.

Jammu-Srinagar National Highway

2234. Shri Bahadur Singh:
Shri Inder J. Malhotra:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to widen the existing Jammu-Srinagar National Highway;

(b) whether any final decision has been taken in the matter;

(c) whether any other alternative route is also contemplated; and

(d) when will the project be finally undertaken?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) There is no scheme for general widening of the road.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Government of India have no intention of developing

any alternative road but the Government of Jammu and Kashmir are considering the feasibility of linking Jammu with Srinagar *via* Rajauri and Sophian across the Pir Panjal range during the Third Plan.

D.V.C. Irrigation Revenues

2235. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large amount of irrigation revenues of D.V.C. are still lying un-realised since long;

(b) if so, the amount to be realised; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for early realisation?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (c). The D.V.C. have reported that claims of about Rs. 59 lakhs in respect of water supplied for kharif irrigation during the years 1956 to 1958 had been preferred by them against the Government of West Bengal. No payment has so far been received by the Corporation. The Corporation are pursuing the matter with the Government of West Bengal.

Accident at Sonepur-Gandak Bridge

2236. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1796 on the 31st August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have since examined the report of the Reviewing Committee regarding the death of labourers in the construction of Sonepur-Gandak Bridge; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir. The Report of the Reviewing Committee has been accepted.

(b) Charge Sheets are being served on the persons held responsible. Under the provision of the Workmen's Compensation Act, compensations at the rate of Rs. 3,000 each have since been paid to the families of the deceased casual labourers. Half monthly payments to the five injured persons have also been made during the periods they remained temporarily disabled.

Telephone Connections

2237. Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications received in 1959 and in 1960 (upto 30th November) for installation of telephones in India under own your telephone scheme and in the ordinary manner; and

(b) the total number of applications rejected and pending under each category out of the total receipt of 1959 and 1960, separately?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) *Total No. of pplications received*

	During 1959	Du 1960 upto 30-11-60
(*i*) Own Your Telephone scheme	11,208	10,714
(*ii*) In the ordinary manner	70,839	51,672

(*b*) *Total number of applications*	*Out of total during* 1959	*pending receipt* 1960
(*i*) Own Your Telephone scheme	6,428	6,753
(*ii*) In the ordinary manner	50,963	45,840

No application was rejected.

Air Service to Colombo

2238. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines Corporation propose to extend their Bombay Cochin Air service to Colombo; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposed extension together with its economical aspect?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

परिवार नियोजन

२२३९. **श्री भक्त दर्शन :** क्या **स्वास्थ्य** मंत्री १९ अगस्त १९६० के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १०८१ के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि परिवार नियोजन कार्यक्रम में अविवाहित नवयुवतियों को नियुक्त न करने का जो निश्चय किया गया था, उसे कार्यान्वित करने की दिशा में स्वयं केन्द्रीय सरकार और भिन्न-भिन्न राज्य सरकारों ने अब तक क्या प्रगति की है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : अपेक्षित सूचना का एक नोट पटल पर रखा जाता है । [**देखिए** परिशिष्ट ३, अनुबन्ध संख्या ९८] ।

ऊपर और नीचे के पुल

२२४०. **श्री भक्त दर्शन :**
श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल :

क्या **रेलवे** मंत्री १९ अगस्त, १९६० के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १०६७ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत सड़कों के ऊपर और नीचे के पुलों की योजना तैयार करने के बारे में विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों ने किस प्रकार के प्रस्ताव भेजे हैं और उन पर क्या निर्णय किया गया है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री सें०वें० रामस्वामी): अभी तक बिहार, पश्चिम बंगाल, उत्तर प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, मैसूर, उड़ीसा और केरल सरकारों से १७२ मौजूदा समपारों की जगह ऊपर/नीचे के पुल बनाने के प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए हैं । राज्य सरकारों से यह सूचना मिलने पर कि वर्तमान नियमों के अनुसार वे इन योजनाओं पर होने वाले खर्च की अपने हिस्से की रकम अपनी योजना के किस वर्ष में देंगी, इन योजनाओं को कार्यान्वित करने की रूप-रेखा तैयार की जायेगी ।

Cold Storages

2241. **Shri R. C. Majhi:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost for setting up cold storages in Delhi, Bangalore and Hydrebad is borne by the Centre alone; and

(b) the progress made so far in setting up these cold storages?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). Investigations are in progress for setting up cold storage warehouses by the Central Warehousing Corporation at Delhi, Bangalore and Hyderabad from the funds of the Corporation. The investigations are expected to be completed shortly.

Cluster Type Training Institutions

2242. **Shri R. C. Majhi:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to start cluster type of training institutions in each district; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

विमान सेवाओं में लगे हुये विदेशी

२२४३. **श्री पद्म देव :** क्या **परिवहन तथा संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आजकल भारत में हवाई सर्विसों में कितने विदेशी कर्मचारी काम कर रहे हैं ?

(ख) इन कर्मचारियों के क्या पद हैं ; और

(ग) उनके पदों पर भारतीय कब तक रखे जायेंगे ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री (डा० पी० सुब्बारायन्) : (क) से (ग). मांगी गई सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और कालान्तर में लोक-सभा की मेज पर रख दी जायगी ।

हिमाचल प्रदेश में बस-दुर्घटना

२२४४. **श्री पद्म देव :** क्या **परिवहन तथा संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में होने वाली दुर्घटनाओं की सूचना संचार व्यवस्था न होने के कारण बहुत देर से मिलती है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि देर से सूचना मिलने के कारण वे जरूरी व्यक्ति भी मर जाते हैं जिन्हें बचाया जा सकता है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार मोटर की सड़के साथ-साथ टेलीफोन या टेलीग्राफ के तार लगाने के लिये कोई कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) प्रशासन को इस प्रकार की किसी भी घटना की सूचना नहीं मिली है ।

(ग) यहां टेलीफोन विभाग द्वारा प्रति-वर्ष आवश्यकता के अनुसार और अधिक टेलीफोन व तार की सुविधायें दी जा रही हैं ।

Advancing of Loans in Himachal Pradesh

2245. Shri S. N. Ramaul: Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) how much crop-loan has been granted by the Himachal Pradesh State Co-operative Bank during 1959-60 and how much has since been realised;

(b) the total amount of interest earned thereon;

(c) the total amount of expenditure incurred on staff realising the loan; and

(d) what amount the Himachal Pradesh Administration had to spend on the salary and travelling allowance of the Marketing staff in connection with the said crop-loan?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Out of the total sum of Rs. 2,34,651 granted as crop loans during 1959-60, a sum of Rs. 2,02,845 was realised before 31st October, 1960.

(b) Rs. 8,092 upto 31st October, 1960.

(c) Rs. 1,049 upto 31st October, 1960.

(d) The Administration has not appointed any special staff for recovery of crop loans. The staff of the co-operative department, besides attending to other work, also assist the State Co-operative Bank in the rea-

lisation of the loan. Hence the amount spent by the Administration cannot be indicated separately.

Electric Locomotives

2246. Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 533 on the 2nd March, 1960 and state:

(a) the number of electric locomotives since imported in the country;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the cut in imports expected after the year 1961, when electric locomotives are expected to start coming from Chittaranjan; and

(d) the saying of foreign exchange expected thereafter progressively from year to year?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No further orders have been placed abroad for supply of electric lomomotives.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d). The mechanical parts of electric locos will be manufactured at Chittaranjan but electrical components will be required to be imported for some time till Heavy Electricals, Bhopal is in a position to manufacture the same.

It is difficult at this stage to assess accurately the saying in foreign exchange due to indigenous manufacture of electric locos year by year. However the saving in foreign exchange will increase progressively with the increase in the indigenous production.

Block Development Committees in Gujerat

2247. Shri M. B. Thakore: Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Block Development Committees in Gujerat the persons selected or appointed mainly belong to one political party;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to remedy it; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up non-party Block Development Committees in the near future?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Detention of Goods at Sabarmati Station

2248. Shri N. B. Thakore: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1057 on the 22nd August, 1957 and state the improvements since made in regard to reduction of detention of goods for transhipment at Sabarmati Station?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): The arrangements made for increased transhipment facilities and reducing the detention to goods at Sabarmati transhipment point are as under:

(i) Both Metre Gauge & Broad Gauge yards have been remodelled and increased reception, despatch and sorting facilities have been provided.

(ii) Additional transhipment platforms have been provided in the transhipment yard.

(iii) Electric gentry crane has been erected for transhipment of heavy lifts.

(iv) Additional staff has been arranged.

(v) Extra shunting engines both on the Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge side have been arranged.

(vi) Additional Metre Gauge Line has been given to facilitate

lifting of coal in Metre Gauge wagons at an increased rate.

(vii) Loco shed has been remodelled to accommodate and deal more engines.

(viii) More engines to keep up pace in clearance of traffic with the additional transhipment had been provided both on main line to Abu Road and on Sabarmati—Botad sections.

(ix) The running of Goods Trains has been regulated with heavier engines to carry more wagons.

(x) Direct transhipment of smalls from Broad Gauge to Metre Gauge and *vice-versa* has been introduced to avoid detention to packages on ground.

(xi) A through live-stock train starting at 18.20 hours from Sabarmati to Bombay arriving Bombay by 12.30 hours next for speedy movement of livestock wagons has been introduced.

(xii) Wagon Chasers in higher grades have been provided to watch detention to wagons and arrange speedy movements.

Railway Quarters on Western Railway

2249. Shri M. B. Thakore: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1010 on the 29th August, 1957 and state;

(a) whether any more quarters have since been built on the Western Railway;

(b) if so, the total number of such quarters and the expenses incurred on them with details?

The Deputy Minister of Railway (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) 5,854 quarters have since been built at a cost of Rs. 278·07 lakhs. Details are as per the annexure laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 99].

Late Running of Trains

2250. Shri Subiman Ghose: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) how many days in 1960 upto the 10th October, 1960 all the up mail and express trains on Eastern Railway and South Eastern Railway started late from Howrah station;

(b) the minimum and maximum period of late starting; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the punctual departure of trains from Howrah station?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a)—

	Days
(*a*) Eastern Railway .	84
South Eastern Railway.	61

(*b*) Railway	Minimum Minutes	Maximum Minutes
Eastern .	3	75
South Eastern .	10	220

(c) Every endeavour is made by the Railway Administrations to ensure punctual departure of trains carrying passengers from Howrah station. Staff are educated on the imperative importance of running passenger trains to time. Suitable action is taken against the staff responsible for avoidable detentions.

Minor Ports

2251. { Shri P. K. Deo: / Shri Kodiyan:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India has written to all the Coastal States to select minor ports and formulate plans for their development;

(b) whether those States have selected such ports, if so, which are those; and

(c) the reaction of National Harbour Board to such suggestions?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). Development of minor ports is primarily the concern of the State Governments. The Government of India renders technical assistance and also gives financial assistance in the form of loans to the State Governments for the execution of such schemes as are included in the Five Year Plans.

2. A tentative Third Five Year Plan for development of minor ports has been prepared in consultation with the maritime State Governments and the Planning Commission and it was discussed in the Special meeting of the National Harbour Board on the 11th November, 1960. The Board generally endorsed the tentative provisions made for minor ports in the Third Plan with a few changes in the case of Ratnagiri and Porbandar. A statement showing the tentative provisions portwise and the changes suggested by the National Harbour Board is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix III, annexure No. 100].

Pasteurization Plant in Madurai

2252. Shri Balakrishnan: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to instal a pasteurization plant at Madurai with assistance from UNICEF; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). A scheme for the supply of 25,000 litres of milk daily to Madurai has been submitted to UNICEF for technical evaluation, which is a necessary pre-condition in their assistance programme. The scheme is proposed to be examined by a Team of FAO-UNICEF technical experts during February/March, 1961. The question of UNICEF assistance, if any, will be considered thereafter.

Goose Incubation Centre in West Bengal

2253. Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have abandoned the project of goose incubation centre to be opened in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

टूंडला स्टेशन के भंगी

२२५४. **श्री ब्रजराज सिंह** : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछले १०-११ वर्षों में उत्तर रेलवे के टूंडला स्टेशन के कुछ भंगी इस कारण नौकरी से हटा दिये गये हैं कि उन्हें निवारक निरोध अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत एक वर्ष तक बन्दी रखा गया था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी संख्या कितनी है तथा उनके नाम क्या-क्या हैं और उन्हें नौकरी से कब हटाया गया था ;

(ग) क्या इन भंगियों में से किन्हीं भंगियों ने रेलवे से यह प्रार्थना की थी कि उन्हें उनकी नौकरी पर बहाल कर दिया जाये ।

(घ) यदि हां, तो कब और उसका क्या परिणाम रहा ;

(ङ) क्या किसी भंगी ने आगरा में विधि-न्यायालय में रेलवे पर दावा किया

था जिसमें रेलवे पर ३० अप्रैल, १९६० को ७२०० रु० ८ आने की डिग्री हो गई ;

(च) यदि हां, तो क्या उक्त कर्मचारी या कर्मचारियों को उनकी नौकरियों पर बहाल कर दिया गया है ;

(छ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और उन्हें कब तक बहाल किये जाने की सम्भावना है ; और

(ज) क्या उन्हें बहाल न करने के लिये उत्तरदायी अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध कोई कार्यवाही की गयी है और क्या रेलवे को हुई हानि उनसे वसूल की गई है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री सें० वें० रामस्वामी): (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) से (ज) सवाल नहीं उठता ।

Bridge near Rameshwaram

2255. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any bridge near Pamban and Rameshwaram Station, Southern Railway;

(b) if so, what is the length of the bridge and the time usually taken by the trains to pass over it;

(c) in which year bridge was constructed; and

(d) whether trains are run on the bridge on caution order?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a Railway Bridge (Pamban Viaduct) between Mandapam and Pamban Stations near Pamban.

(b) The length of the bridge is about 1¼ miles and normally trains take about 10 minutes in passing over it.

(c) The bridge was constructed in 1914.

(d) There is a permanent speed restriction of 10 miles per hour on this bridge on account of the existence of a 'Scherzer' lift span 214 feet long.

Sugar Factories

2256. **Shri Kunhan:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state how many licences were issued since the beginning of Second Five Year Plan by Government to start sugar factories in different parts of the country, with a State-wise break-up of the figures?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): Since the beginning of the Second Five Year Plan, licences have been granted or approved for establishment of 39 sugar factories in different States as under:—

	State	No. of licences granted or approved
1	Andhra Pradesh	7
2	Bihar	1
3	Gujerat	2
4	Kerala	2
5	Maharashtra	7
6	Madras	9
7	Mysore	3
8	Orissa	1
9	Punjab	3
10	Pondicherry	1
11	Uttar Pradesh	3
	TOTAL	39

Calcutta Port Commission

2257. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether some steel plates have been stolen from MDI area under Controller of Stores, Calcutta Port Commission;

(b) if so, when the theft was detected and the number of plates stolen and their size and the value of the said plates; and

(c) what steps have been taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communication (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a). Yes.

(b) The loss was detected on the 24th October, 1960. The number, size and value of the plates are given below:—

Number . .	42
Size	12'-0"X4' 0" X3|16"
Value	Book value—Rs. 9,954.

(c) (i) The Police have been asked to investigate the matter. Meanwhile heavy plates which can be handled only by cranes have been placed over light steel material to make removal difficult.

(ii) The plates stacked on the top have been marked to permit of visual check and identification.

(iii) Security arrangements have been tightened and the question of enclosing the entire MDI yard by a perimeter wall is under active consideration.

(iv) The Security Officer has arranged for more vigorous supervision both during day and night.

Availability of Water in Gujerat

2258. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prof. M.S. Krishnan, Head of the Geological Department, of the Government of India told in Ahmedabad last month that there is possibility of finding water in abundance at depth in the Rann of Cutch (Gujerat);

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any scheme for finding out water in that area; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) There were Press reports that Prof. M. S. Krishnan, Head of the Geological Survey Department of the University of Andhra, had made a statement that there was possibility of finding water in abundance at depth in the Rann of Cutch (Gujerat). Exploratory drilling carried out by the Exploratory Tube-wells Organization in the Zalawad and Kutch Districts of Gujerate State shows that tubewells in the area are likely to yield brackish water generally unsuitable for irrigation.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Compensation for Land Acquired by S. E. Railway

2259. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lands had been acquired by Government for laying a branch railway line from Balasore Railway Station to Nilgiri in the District of Balasore South Eastern Railways;

(b) if so, the year in which lands had been acquired and whether compensation had been paid to the owner of such lands;

(c) if no compensation had been paid, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the approximate date when Government propose to pay compensation?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b). During the last war Military Authorities constructed a 10 mile long siding taking off from Balasore Railway station to a stone quarry in Nilgiri State on leased land in Balasore District. The land was requisitioned on 10-5-1944 by the District Magistrate, Balasore, to meet the requirements of the Defence Services. The Defence Department gave up the use of this siding from May, 1947 and it was taken over by the Railway from 1-1-1948. The leased value was paid annually and the civil authorities were authorised, in Dec. 1959, to pay final compensation for the sale value of the land. For this purpose, a sum of Rs. 66,202.04 nP. was placed at the disposal of the Collector, Balasore District.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Passengers Thrown out of Trains on S.E. Railway

2260. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passengers thrown out of trains since the beginning of June till the end of November, 1960 between Kharagpur and Khurda, Road on the South Eastern Railway; and

(b) the details of the incidents?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) None.

(b) Does not arise.

वेस्पा स्कूटरों पर सड़क-कर

२२६१. **श्री प० ला० बारूपाल** क्या **परिवहन तथा संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली में कुछ वेस्पा स्कूटरों पर ३० रु० वार्षिक सड़क-कर लगाने के क्या कारण हैं जब कि अन्य वेस्पा स्कूटरों पर वार्षिक सड़क-कर १५ रु० ही लिया जाता है और हालांकि दोनों का भार समान है ;

(ख) क्या यह भूल सुधारी जा सकती है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो कब तक सुधारी जायेगी ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादर) : (क) से (ग). दिल्ली में वेस्पा स्कूटरों पर टैक्स मोटर गाड़ी अधिनियम में दी गई दर के अनुसार लिया जाता है जो इस प्रकार है :—

(१) अगर खाली गाड़ी का वजन २०० पौंड से ज्यादा नहीं है तो १५ रुपया प्रतिवर्ष,

(२) अगर खाली गाड़ी का वजन २०० पौंड से ज्या है तो ३० रुपया प्रति वर्ष ।

यह कर कानून के अनुसार गाड़ियों के रजिस्ट्रेशन के समय उनके मालिकों से वजन की रसीद मिलने पर निश्चित किया जाता है । यह वजन अनुमोदित मशीनों से लिया जाता है । वेस्पा स्कूटरों का वजन एक्स-सरीज के बिना १९६ से १९८ पौंड तक पाया जाता है । जब इन स्कूटरों में एक्ससरीज लगा दी जाती है तो सहज ही इनका वजन २०० पौंड से बढ़ जाता है और इससे गाड़ी पर अधिकतम कर ३० रु० प्रति वर्ष लगाना उचित हो जाता है । इसलिये वेस्पा स्कूटरों पर कर लगाने में कोई भूल नहीं की गई है ।

P.&T. Employees

2262. Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Post and Telegraph Department has taken disciplinary proceedings against employees upon charges under Section 4 of Ordinance I of 60 even after they have been acquitted by Courts of law of charges of same nature under Section 4 of the Ordinance;

(b) if so, how many such cases are there in the Madras circle; and

(c) why the Department has proceeded on the same charges after the employees are acquitted of the same charges?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) No, Sir. It is the conduct of an employee which is considered in Departmental proceedings. The proceedings do not relate to an offence under any 'Law'.

(b). Nil.

(c) Does not arise.

Train Examiners

2263 { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** / **Shri Yajnik:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the period from 1st July, 1960 to 14th July, 1960 the Government Press Communiques and announcements of All India Radio declared that the existing pay scale of Train Examiners Rs. 100-185 had been upgraded to the pay scale of Rs. 180-240 and three thousand Train Examiners had been benefited on account of up-gradation; and

(b) if so, the number of Train Examiners for whom the upgraded pay scale has since been implemented?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No Press communique was issued by the Government. It has, however, come to notice of the Government that the All-India Radio referred to the Train Examiners among other categories in a story put out by them regarding the Pay Commission's recommendations.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

Train Examiners

2264. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of Railway Board's directives the authorities of Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway, Western Railway and North East Frontier Railway are giving reappointment to the superannuated Train Examiners while suitable personnel in the cadre are available for promotion; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to stop the reappointment of superannuated Train Examiners when such reappointment blocks the avenue of the promotion of the working personnel?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Re-employment has been resorted to only in the absence of suitable serving personnel.

(b) Does not arise.

Suffocation of Railway Workers in Delhi

2265. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether eight workers were suffocated in Delhi as a result of leakage in a cylinder recently; and

(b) whether any investigation has been made in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) One Railway Protection Force Sainik and eleven Fire Brigade men were affected on 20-11-1960 in Delhi Goods Shed as a result of residual chlorine gas leaking from one of the empty gas cylinders unloaded on that day and no labourers were suffocated.

(b) Yes and the preliminary investigation has revealed that the cap of one of the empty cylinders became loose causing leakage of the residual gas.

Theft of Goods on Railways

2266. **Shri Achar:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken notice of the observations made by Mr. Justice M. Ananthanaroganon of Madras High Court in a recent case against Southern Railway regarding the theft of goods while in conveyance and the delay in attending to the complaint; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes.

(b) In the case in question the loss was due to an organised running train theft in spite of due care required of

a bailee having been taken and the claim was correctly repudiated under the existing law and the Railways decision was also upheld by the Hon'ble Judge. While sympathising with the claimants for the loss sustained, it is not proposed to reverse the decision already taken by the Railway.

Regarding delay in replying to the claimants, Southern Railway was not in a position to give final reply to them until the police enquiry confirmed the loss to be due to running train theft. The Railway however, has taken steps to ensure that such delays do not recur.

Allotment of Railway Quarters

2267. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway Employees in Madras State do not get quarters allotted by the State Government;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) whether payment of Wages Act has been suitably amended for recovery of rents; and

(d) whether the Railway Board will communicate the decision to the State Government of Madras and other State Governments concerned?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In 1957 the State Government of Madras imposed a ban on the allotment of buildings to Railway employees governed by the Payment of Wages Act as recovery of arrears of rent amounts from the pay of such employees was not permissible under this Act.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The State Government of Madras have not agreed to lift the ban although they have been told that the Pay of Wages Act has been suitably amended and now permits of such recoveries from the poy of Railway employees. The matter is being pursued with the State Government.

Circular Railway in Madras

2268. Shri N. R. Muniswamy: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Madras to construct circular railway in city of Madras; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government of India?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Vellore-Conjeevaram Line

2269. Shri N. R. Muniswamy: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal to link Vellore and Conjeevaram by a metre gauge railway line to increase the operational efficiency was dropped; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Consideration of this proposal was postponed as this line did not find a place in the Railways' Second Five Year Plan.

Change of Sex

2270. Shri N. R. Muniswamy: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of changes of sex were reported so far from all the States in the year 1960 upto now;

(b) how many out of them developed male characteristics;

(c) whether these characteristics refused to respond to surgical operation;

(d) if so, the number of cases so far succeeded in arresting the transformation; and

(e) whether any specific case of such surgical operation proved unsuccessful in recent past in India?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (e). One case has been reported in Delhi and the patient is under investigation and treatment.

The requisite information in respect of other areas is being collected and will, on receipt, be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Upgrading of Telephone Operators

2271. **Shri A. M. Tariq:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the upgradation scheme for railway employees announced by him on 10th February, 1957 and state:

(a) the total number of telephone operators on the Northern Railway;

(b) the number of telephone operators whose lien has been fixed in the clerical cadre;

(c) the number of telephone operators who have actually been transferred to clerical posts;

(d) what are the reasons for delay in implementation of the scheme announced about three and a half years back; and

(e) how much time it is likely to take for implementation of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) 57.

(b) 39.

(c) 5.

(d) Delay has been due to the difficulty in getting suitable trained staff to replace the present Telephone Operators.

(e) About six months.

Kundah Project

2272. **Shri Nanjappan:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) the result of talks with the representatives of Canadian Government by those of Madras Government regarding implementation of third stage of Kundah Hydel Scheme in the later part of November, 1960;

(b) whether foreign collaboration is still necessary for implementation; and

(c) to what extent indigenous machineries will be used for the implementation of third stage of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) A tentative agreement in respect of assistance for the scheme under the Colombo Plan has been reached. The approval of the Canadian Government is awaited.

(b) Due to acute foreign exchange position the assistance would be very helpful.

(c) Almost the entire machinery and equipment needed for the Third Stage will be imported.

Main Clock in New Delhi Railway Stations

2273. **Shri N. R. Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the dial of the Main Clock in New Delhi Railway Station platform has been changed into Hindi numerals instead of the international form of numerals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether protests have been received from people that the clock is misleading?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). This clock was installed in 1955 and since then its dial is in Devanagari script.

(c) No complaints have been received in this respect.

Regional Offices at Waltair and Kharagpur

2274. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposals have been finalised to open shortly two regional offices at Waltair and Kharagpur;

(b) if so, what happened to the necessity for opening one divisional headquarter at Khurda Road; and

(c) whether the Railway Ministry has taken any steps to this effect so far?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No such proposals are under consideration.

(b) Government have decided not to divisionalise the South Eastern Railway for the present.

(c) Does not arise.

रलवे की जमीन

२२७६. **श्री सरजू पाण्डेय :** क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बलिया म्युनिसिपल बोर्ड ने बनारस-बलिया लाइनज पर अवस्थित कटहर नाले के पास लगभग २ एकड़ रेलवे की जमीन मंगल पाण्डेय स्मारक के लिये मांगी थी ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस सम्बन्ध में विभाग ने क्या कार्रवाही की ; और

(ग) क्या विभाग ने उक्त जमीन को म्युनिसिपल बोर्ड को देने का फैसाल कर लिया है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री सें० वें० रामस्वामी): (क) मंगल पाण्डेय स्मारक के लिये रेलवे की इस जमीन को देने के बारे में पूर्वोत्तर रेल-प्रशासन को बलिया नगरपालिका से कोई प्रार्थना-पत्र नहीं मिला है ।

(ख) और (ग). सवाल नहीं उठता ।

New Station between Bhanupli and Nangal Dam

2277. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state at what stage is the proposal to open a new Railway Station between Bhanupli and Nangal Dam on the Northern Railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): It is proposed to open a contractor-operated Train Halt between Bhanupli and Nangal Dam stations and the execution of the work is awaiting acceptance of the estimates by the Punjab Government, who are to bear the costs.

International Telegraph Office

2278. Shri Manay: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Telegraph Office, New Delhi, working with depleted staff;

(b) whether it is a fact that officials working in the above-said office are required to perform extra-work;

(c) whether it is a fact that a majority of the officials in the above-said office have put in less than ten years service and are not well trained in handling High class messages; and

(d) if the answer to parts (a), (b) and (c) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take to improve the conditions in the said office to ensure high standard of efficiency?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) The office was opened on 1st August, 1960, and staff is being deployed in conformity with the increase of traffic in the office.

(b) All telegraph staff is required to perform "Over-time Duty" when fluctuations in traffic justify it. They are paid separately for the over time.

(c) No.

(d) Improvement in the working of the office is under review. In regard to part (b) of the question, it is the policy of the Department to meet the sudden increase of traffic and absenteeism of staff by employing staff on over-time. Such an arrangement is both economical and convenient.

Kavali Canal Scheme

2279. **Shri Osman Ali Khan:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned the Kavali Canal Scheme in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) Does not arise.

Propaganda against Family Planning

2280. **Shri Balakrishnan:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some newspapers are doing propaganda against the scheme of family planning;

(b) how far such propaganda has affected the scheme; and

(c) what action is proposed to check such propaganda?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir. Some papers have published reports not favourable to the scheme.

(b) The propaganda against the Family Planning programme has not affected it as the programme is receiving support from the people.

(c) It is not proposed to taken any action to check the propaganda against the programme. Family planning is considered necessary to ensure health, harmony and happiness of every father, mother and their children. It is a social policy regarding family welfare giving the right to every family to have children by their own choice. The rate of increase of about 2 per cent. per year of population cannot be viewed with complacency. Population should be stabilised to suit the resources of the country. The stabilisation of population is, therefore, considered an essential element in the strategy of development. The family planning services are offered entirely on voluntary basis. Family planning is a people's programme with Governmental assistance which also respects and appreciates the point of view of conscientious objectors.

बीकानेर डिवीजन म रेल के फाटक

२२८१. **श्री प० ला० बारूपाल :**
श्री लच्छी राम :

क्या **रेलवे** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बीकानेर डिवीजन में जो ग्राम रास्तों पर रेलवे क्रासिंग हैं वे देहाती क्षेत्रों में स्लीपर लगा कर बिल्कुल बन्द कर दिये गये हैं जिससे ग्रामीणों को लाइन पार करने में बड़ी कठिनाई और खतरे का सामाना करना पड़ता है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि जो रास्ते पक्के थे और जिन पर बसें चलती थीं वे रास्ते भी बन्द कर दिये गये हैं परन्तु फिर भी बस के ड्राइवरों और अन्य गाड़ी वालों ने उन सड़कों के ग्राम पास से रास्ते निकाल लिये हैं ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री सें० वें० रामस्वामी): (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग). बीकानेर डिवीजन में जानवरों के लिये कुछ 'डी' दर्जे के समपार हैं जिनसे होकर गुजरने वाली सड़कों में राजस्थान सरकार ने हाल ही में रेल-प्रशासन को सूचना दिये बिना और वाहन-

यातायात के लिए उन समपारों का दर्जा ऊंचा करने की जिम्मेवारी लिये बिना, सुधार कर दिया है । यह उल्लेखनीय है कि 'डी' दर्जे के ऐसे समपार न तो वाहन-यातायात के लिये बनाये गये हैं और न उसके योग्य हैं । इसलिये सुरक्षा के लिये रेलवे को मजबूर हो कर ऐसे समपारों पर बाड़ लगानी पड़ी । ऐसे समपारों की बगल से बसों द्वारा रेलवे लाइन पार किये जाने के कुछ मामले रेलवे के नोटिस में आये और रेलवे द्वारा राजस्थान सरकार को तुरन्त बता दिया गया है कि सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से इस तरह आना-जाना खतरनाक है । राज्य-सरकार से यह बताने के लिये भी कहा गया वाहन-यातायात के लिये वह किस-किस समपार का दर्जा बढ़ाना चाहती है । वर्तमान नियमों के अनुसार इस प्रकार दर्जा बढ़ाने का खर्च सड़क-अधिकारियों को देना पड़ेगा । राजस्थान सरकार से निश्चित प्रस्ताव और समपारों का दर्जा बढ़ाने का खर्च देने की मंजूरी मिलने पर आगे कार्रवाई की जायेगी ।

Central Storage Depot, Kanpur

2282. **Shri S. M. Banerjee**: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether allegations have been made by some contractors against the contract of loading, unloading and transport of foodgrain bags at Central Storage Depot, Kanpur against the tender dated 18th June, 1960;

(b) if so, the details about this contract;

(c) the nature of allegations; and

(d) whether Government have investigated the allegations?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) to (d). Open tender notice was issued in May, 1960 for appointment of a contractor for handling and transport of foodgrains at the Central Foodgrains Storage Depot at Kanpur in September, 1960 when the previous contract was due to expire. Tenders were received in June, 1960 and these were opened in the presence of eleven parties who responded to the open tender notice. No procedural irregularity was noticed and necessary calculations were made on the basis of the pattern of service in the previous year, as is done in all cases. It was found that the previous contractor was not the lowest tenderer. In July, 1960, when it was decided to appoint the lowest tenderer representations were received from the previous contractor and two other printing firms apparently controlled by the previous contractor It was alleged in the representations that it was not necessary to provide for services relating to stencil marking on bags and standardisation of bags and, therefore, these services should be left out of consideration in the costing. On receipt of the allegation the case was fully examined and it was found that the previous contractor had, in fact, asked for payment for marking of bags at a much higher rate than what was received in the new tender. The service of standardisation was also included in the previous contract. In view of these reasons, it was not considered necessary to revise the earlier decision to award the contract to the lowest tenderer.

Lahori Gate Contractor

2283. **Shri B. K. Gaikwad**: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the contractor doing the job of loading and unloading on the Lahori Gate Railway Station, Delhi has been removed by Government and the job is being done departmentally;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the labour jamadars of the labourers' gang have been removed because they demand the labourers' dues;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the labourers have not received their dues from the contractor; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) It is learnt that some payments are due for the period between 1st April, 1960 and 31st May, 1960.

(d) While generally any dispute between the handling contractors and the labour employed by them, over payment of wages due to labour is to be settled among the contractor and labourers themselves, the Railway Administration has been directed to see if the contractors could not be asked to settle the accounts with their labourers before the Railway releases handling charges due to them.

Engineering Department of Madurai Division

2284. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 100 of the Approved List of Candidates (ALC) of the Engineering Department in Madurai Division of Southern Railway working since 1954 are not paid the Central Pay Commission scale;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) whether Government will continue the old practice till they are confirmed; and

(d) what steps will Government take to regularise and confirm them?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

National Highway No. 7

2285. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communication** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the diversion of National Highway No. 7 outside the city of Madurai has been completed;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) by what time the work is likely to be completed?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir. About 50 per cent. has been completed.

(b) Delay in acquisition of land in a part of the bypass.

(c) In about a year after all the required land has been acquired.

Pension Facilities to Retired Railway Employees

2286. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation from the organisation of Retired Railway Employees regarding pension facilities;

(b) if so, what are the steps taken by Government;

(c) whether pension facilities will be extended to employees who retired during 1st April, 1947 to 1st April, 1957;

(d) if not, the reasons for not granting them; and

(e) whether it is a fact that retired employees are prepared to waive their claim for arrears?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, from the so-called All-India Retired Railwaymen's Federation.

(b) This question was considered on a number of occasions, and it was decided that it would not be correct to extend the Pension Scheme, which was adopted on the Railways from 16th November, 1957 to staff who had already retired prior to 1st April, 1957. The Federation was advised accordingly.

(c) No.

(d) Long-term retrospective effect as a rule is not given when Government sanctions change in terms and conditions of service of its employees, this being incorrect in principle apart

from practical difficulties in making adjustments for the past.

(e) Yes, the Federation stated so. They wanted to have the pensionary benefits from 1st January, 1960 in addition to the Provident Fund benefits already sanctioned and received by them.

Agricultural Production

2287. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1292 on the 23rd August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the amount allotted as Central financial assistance to State Governments for 1960-61 for agricultural production has been paid in full to the State Governments; and

(b) if not, the amount of loans and grants paid so far to the various States, State-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). No. In accordance with the procedure for release of Central assistance (loans and grants) for Plan Schemes (including Agricultural Production) to the State Governments, three-fourths of the amount allotted as Central financial assistance to the State Government for 1960-61 has been released automatically by the Ministry of Finance as lump sum ways and means advances to the State Governments in nine equal monthly instalments On receipt of the third quarterly statement of expenditure for 1960-61, scheduled in January, 1961 from State Governments, a consolidated sanction will be issued under different Development Head (including Agricultural Production) to the State Governments in the month of February/Marmh, 1961 to clear the outstanding ways and means advances and the balance, if any, will be credited to the States' accounts.

Agricultural College in Madurai

2288. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up an agricultural college in Madurai (Madras State);

(b) whether representations have been received regarding the same from the Madurai Ramnad Chamber of Commerce;

(c) if so, the action taken by Government; and

(d) how long will it take for setting up of the said college in Madurai?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Early in 1959, an application for the grant of financial assistance was received from the Thiyagarajar Educational Trust, Madurai, through the Government of Madras, for starting an Agricultural College at Madurai but the request could not be granted.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Doctors in Tripura

2289. { **Shri Bangshi Thakur:**
Shri Dsaratha Deb:

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to low grade of Pay Scale for Doctors in Tripura, Doctors are not available in Tripura and also the Doctors who are at present in service in Tripura are preparing to leave Tripura for joining Services in other States such as West Bengal etc. where better Pay-Scale is prescribed for them;

(b) the number of dispensaries run by Tripura Territorial Council without Medical Officers; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) Seventeen.

(c) The scale of pay of Rs. 200-10-450 for Civil Assistant Surgeons, Grade I, under the Tripura Administration has since been revised to

Rs. 250-20-650 which is the sanctioned scale of pay under the West Bengal Government. It is hoped that the position will now improve.

Joomias in Tripura

2290. Shri Bangshi Thakur: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that harsh treatment is given by the forest employees of Peratia Forest Office to the Joomias of Mogh-Pushkarini Mouja of Belonia, Tripura; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and remedial measures taken?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) No such report has been received by the Tripura Administration.

(b) Does not arise.

Central Fertilizers Pool

2291. Shri Maniyangadan: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the quantity and value of fertilizers handled so far by the Central Fertilizers Pool during each of the years from 1955-56?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): A statement is given below:—

Year	Quantity (Tons)	Value Rs.
1955-56	6,17,747	18,29,43,382
1956-57	6,63,583	19,96,49,461
1957-58	8,27,459	26,04,67,853
1958-59	6,97,381	22,03,02,082
1959-60	9,86,806	28,53,82,946
1960-61 (upto 30-11-60)	5,16,867	13,05,31,580

Electrical Department of N. Railway

2292. Shri Ramji Verma: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of skilled and semi-skilled personnel with a total service of more than five years employed by the Electrical Department of Northern Railway on the 1st April, 1960; and

(b) the terms and conditions prescribed for their final absorption on the Northern Railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railway (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Acquisition of Land for Railway in West Bengal

2293. { Shri H. N. Mukerjee: / Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has issued notices of eviction on refugees from East Pakistan who have set up on their own initiative during the last ten years a colony of the name of Usumpur Udbastu Palli at Agarpara, district 24 Parganas in West Bengal;

(b) whether the lands in question are being requisitioned for the Railway's own essential purposes;

(c) if so, for what; and

(d) whether it is proposed to re-examine the whole matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes Sir. Eviction notices have been issued to seventy persons for unauthorised occupation of Railway land.

(b) The question of requisition does not arise as the land belongs to the Railway. The land is required for important Railway use *viz.* for Permanent Way Depot and for construction of staff quarters etc. necessitated by acute shortage of land in Calcutta proper.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.

Dietary Atlas of India

2294. Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal for preparation of a Dietary

Atlas of India is under the consideration of Government of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in connection therewith?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) It is proposed to gather information on food habits, dietary and cooking practices, and food intake, including an account of all the articles actually consumed among different communities in different parts of India.

(c) The State Nutrition Officers have been requested by the Indian Council of Medical Research to provide information already available with them and to initiate measures, in certain representative areas in each State, to collect further information. The manner in which the above information is to be collected, and the machinery needed for the purpose, were discussed by the Indian Council of Medical Research with the representatives of the Nutrition Departments of some States in India at their recent meeting specially called at Hyderabad. It was decided to give special assistance to the States, wherever necessary, in securing such information. A special Committee has also been appointed by the Indian Council of Medical Research to help in gathering such information and to co-ordinate the work.

Visit of American Farmers

2295. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report from the team of American farmers which visited India early this year; and

(b) if so, the main recommendations therein for the U.S. Agricultural aid to India and other matters?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). No American farmers have visited India this year at the invitation of the Government of India. The question of receiving any report from them by the Government, therefore, does not arise.

The Farmers and World Affairs Inc., Philadelphia, U.S.A., non-profit, non-membership educational organization, established in 1956 "to promote world peace through mutual understanding" has launched a three year project in collaboration with the Bharat Krishak Samaj with the object to make the men and women of the group acquainted with the people of India. Under this project 12 American farmers and the Assistant Secretary of the Organization came to India on November 25, 1959 as the guests of Bharat Krishak Samaj.

Arbitration for Settlement of Disputes on Railways

2296. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the General Council of the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen has urged the Union Government to accept unequivocally the principle of arbitration for settling all disputes; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Government has not yet received the resolutions passed by the General Council of the National Federation of Indian Railwaymen recently.

(b) Does not arise.

Loss of Insured Parcel from Post Office

2297. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a parcel insured for Rs. 100 but containing Rs. 50,000 in currency notes was reported missing from the New Delhi post office on 30th November, 1960;

(b) if so, whether this matter has been inquired into; and

(c) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Departmental enquiries showed that the insured parcel was booked at the New Delhi Head Post Office about 14.30 hrs. and was duly transferred to the despatch clerk along with other insured articles about 16·30 hrs. The article was found missing after about 15 minutes when the despatch clerk was preparing the list of the articles for despatch. The matter was reported to the Police. Their enquiries have not yet concluded. The culprit has not yet been traced.

Flood Control Scheme in Orissa

2298. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Orissa Government has submitted a flood control scheme costing Rs. 42 crores;

(b) whether the State Government has asked the Government of India to include this scheme in the Third Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, whether the Central Government have considered this proposal; and

(d) if so, to what effect?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (d). The Government of Orissa submitted a Memorandum to the Union Minister of Irrigation and Power on 27th August, 1960, during his visit to the flood affected areas in that State. The Memorandum contained only a general picture of the programme that was considered necessary by the State Government to be undertaken on a long-term basis to relieve flooding in the Mahanadi Delta area. These works were estimated to cost about Rs. 42 crores and the State Government proposed that provision therefor might be made in the Third Plan. The State Government were informed that in the absence of specific schemes, it was not possible to examine the proposal.

District Telegraph Office, Palghat

2299. Shri V. Eacharan: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to start a District Telegraph Office at Palghat (Malabar) has been finalised; and

(b) if so, when the office is likely to start functioning?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) and (b). A Combined Posts & Telegraph office exists at Palghat. The question of its conversion to a departmental Telegraph Office is under examination.

Cremation Ground near Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi

2300. Shri Ram Garib: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government banned the cremation of dead bodies near the residential quarters of Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi sometime back;

(b) whether it is a fact that the cremation of dead bodies there has started again; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Delhi Municipal Corporation had prohibited the cremation of dead bodies at the site near the residential quarters in Nauroji Nagar on the 15th March, 1960.

(b) Yes.

(c) The order prohibiting the cremation of dead bodies, referred to in reply to part (a) above, was issued by the Medical Officer of Health, Delhi Municipal Corporation under Section

390 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957, on the understanding that this place was never used as cremation ground before the commencement of the said Act. But later on it was brought to the notice of the Delhi Municipal Corporation authorities that the site in question had been used for cremating dead bodies even before the commencement of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957, and as a result, the ban can only be effective if it is imposed after the prior sanction of the Standing Committee of the Corporation. The matter has, therefore, been referred by the Medical Officer of Health, Delhi Municipal Corporation to the Standing Committee for this purpose.

Salem-Bangalore Rail Link

2301. Shri Narasimhan: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether Government have completed the examination of the Traffic and Engineering Survey Reports of the proposed Salem-Bangalore Railway link *via* Hosur and Dharmapura?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): The reports are still under examination.

World Health Assembly in Delhi

2302. { Dr. Gangadhara Siva: / Shri Abdul Latif:

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the date of inauguration of the XIV Session of the World Health Assembly to be held in New Delhi next year at the invitation of the Government of India;

(b) the number of countries participating in the session;

(c) whether the representatives of the Unani and Ayurvedic recognised organisations are being invited to attend the session; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 7th February, 1961.

(b) Total number of Members and Associate Member States is 102 and almost all of them are expected to participate.

(c) No.

(d) Inter-governmental and non-governmental associations which are in official relationship with the World Health Organisation are invited to attend the World Health Assembly as observers. The selection of such organizations is made by the Executive Board and one of the basic criteria is that the organization should be international in its structure and scope.

P. & T. Building, Pithorgarh

2303. Shri J. B. S. Bist: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1604 on the 9th March, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the construction of Posts and Telegraphs building at Pithorgarh has since been completed;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when will it be completed?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) No.

(b) and (c). There has been difficulty in finding a suitable contractor to execute the work. The estimate had also to be revised. Arrangements have since been made to award the work to a new contractor who will start it after the close of the winter season. It is hoped that the work will be completed by November, 1961.

Insect Parasitology

2304. Shri Dublish: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the research work of Insect Parasitology

(Biological Control of Insect Pests) in the Entomology Division of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute;

(b) whether it has resulted in any definite recommendations for the use of the farmers in the country;

(c) whether any survey on 'New Species' has been done; and

(d) if so, whether any of the new species have been utilized for the control of Insect Pests in India?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Investigations necessary for the utilisation of the parasites for the control of the following Insect pests in India were carried out:

(i) Cottony Cushion scale of Citrus.

(ii) Stem Borer and Pyrilla of Sugarcane.

(iii) Stem Borer of Maize.

Two new parasites of the Cotton Bollworms have been discovered and methods for their mass-multiplication for release in the fields have been perfected.

(b) Results of the investigations are published in Scientific journals from which the workers in the States and farmers get necessary information. These parasites are also supplied to the State Entomologists on request. In Mysore, Madras, Bombay, Orissa and Bihar, parasites for the control of Stem borer of Sugar cane are being utilised to check the borers.

(c) and (d). Yes, a survey is being carried out for New Species of Parasites under a Scheme of the 2nd Five Year Plan. Eighty parasites have been discovered so far under this survey. The investigations on these parasites have not yet reached the stage of their utilisation in India.

Tulihal Aerodrome (Imphal)

2305. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheduled date of opening of the Tulihal aerodrome at Imphal has been delayed; and

(b) if so, why and when it will be opened to traffic?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) and (b). There has been some delay in the opening of Tulihal Aerodrome at Imphal due to non-availability of telephones and remote control lines. It is hoped that the aerodrome will be opened to traffic by the end of January, 1961.

Imphal Municipality

2306. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the date of Civic Election of the Imphal Municipality has been fixed;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be held and whether on adult franchise or not;

(c) whether the Assam Municipal Act has been repealed and replaced by any other Act for the purpose of the Imphal Municipality; and

(d) whether the electoral roll has been prepared on the basis of the extended area of the Municipality?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Rice and Paddy Production in Manipur

2307. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prospects of yield of paddy and rice in the coming harvest in Manipur are not very encouraging on account of insects, pests and untimely rains; and

(b) the total estimate of yield during the present season as compared to the previous year?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). Information is being obtained from the Manipur Administration and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it is received.

Procurement of Rice and Paddy in Manipur

2308. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to procure rice and paddy from producers by the State Trading Organisation in Manipur during the present harvest season; and

(b) if so, whether the procurement price has been fixed for the coming season and at what rate rice and paddy are being procured?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Imphal Civil Hospital

2309. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that complaints are made in the local press and by the public of Manipur regarding the unsatisfactory state of service rendered to the patients in the Imphal Civil Hospital specially to those admitted at night to the emergency wards;

(b) whether it is a fact that only a compounder and a nurse are present in the ward for emergency cases; and

(c) if the reply to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the steps taken to attend to emergency cases admitted at night?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Train-Truck Collision near Dikom

2310. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether one person was killed and two others injured in a train-truck collision near Dikom on the NEF Railway on 6th December, 1960;

(b) what are the details of the accident; and

(c) what steps are being taken to prevent the recurrence of such accidents?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). On 6th December, 1960 at about 11.35 hours while 343 Up Passenger train was running between Dikom and Hatiali Ground Siding on the Dibrugarh Town-Tinsukia section of the N.F. Railway, one military truck collided with the train at an unmanned level crossing. As a result, the Driver of the truck was killed instantaneously. One occupant of the truck and another of the train were also injured.

(c) Since the accident occurred due to negligance on the part of the truck driver, the question does not arise.

Carriage and Wagon Workshop, Lucknow

2311. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the absence of about 400 workers of Carriage and Wagon Workshop, Lucknow has not been regularised despite Government orders;

(b) whether these workers are said to have staged a sitdown strike;

(c) if so, the reason for not regularising their services; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No.

(b) Yes, about 309 workers staged a sit-down strike on 13-7-1960.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

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12 hrs.

RE: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Sir, you were pleased to say whenever adjournment motions were tabled that the purpose would be served by a short-notice question. My experience is that short-notice questions are treacherous because their admission or non-admission depends entirely on the Minister. You were also pleased to say that the calling attention notices might serve the purpose and you are competent to admit them or not. My experience is that the Ministers try to disallow them. On a previous occasion when I submitted a calling attention notice under your advice on the report of the *Observer*, that was disallowed because the Prime Minister did not want that to be so. Today I tabled an adjournment motion on Mr. Krishna Menon's speech in the UN about Congo.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member has got the knack of exaggerating every small thing that happens and making it a policy matter. I do not allow adjournment motions unless they are urgent, of recent occurrence and of great public importance. If I say that there may be other methods, it does not mean that I commit myself that they can be brought up in that particular manner. The hon. Ministers must agree to reply to the short notice questions. Similarly, there is the calling attention notice. When I receive notice of any of these motions I see whether whatever there are before me are right or wrong and if I find that they are wrong, I disallow them. I do not give a guarantee that the hon. Member will certainly have his motion placed before this House or accepted by the House or by me if he tables it in another form. Hon. Member refers to things indirectly. It is a very small thing. Am I not entitled to say that this is too small a matter to be brought up before the House in this form or that it is not of such urgent and public importance? There is no meaning in referring to it. Hon. Members during the recess will calmly go through what all is happening here. I am trying to increase the opportunities for the Opposition, much more than what has been done hitherto. Almost on every matter I myself suggest that it may come up for a half-an-hour discussion or that it may be taken up for a two-hour discussion. I am trying to do my best in the matter. But, unfortunately, there are one or two hon. Members whom I can never satisfy.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit, Sir, our experience is very sad with respect to calling attention notices etc.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry if the hon. Member's experience is sad. I have to get along with him and he has to get along with me. (*Interruption*).

12·21 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTE ON RATIONALE OF INDIAN ECONOMIC ORGANISATION

The Deputy Minister of Planning and Labour and Employment (Shri L. N. Mishra): Sir, on behalf of Shri Nanda, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of a note dated the 29th April, 1959 by Prof. J. K. Galbraith entitled "Some notes on the Rationale of Indian Economic Organisation." [*Placed in Library, See* No. LT-2558/].

AMENDMENT TO BOMBAY SUGAR (EXPORT CONTROL) ORDER

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 1440 dated the

3rd December, 1960 making certain amendment to the Bombay Sugar (Export Control) Order, 1959, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. (*Placed in Library, See* No. LT-2559/60).

12.22 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

(i) 'In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 162 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Bill, 1960, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 16th December, 1960, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill.'

(ii) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on Monday, the 19th December, 1960, passed the enclosed motion concurring in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do join in the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill to regulate the employment of women in certain establishments for certain periods before and after child-birth and to provide for payment of maternity benefit to them. The names of the members nominated by the Rajya Sabha to serve on the said Joint Committee are set out in the motion.

MOTION

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do join in the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill to regulate the employment of women in certain establishments for certain periods before and after child-birth and to provide for payment of maternity benefit to them, and resolves that the following members of the Rajya Sabha be nominated to serve on the said Joint Committee:—

1. Shri Akhtar Husain
2. Shrimati Anis Kidwai
3. Shri Arjun Arora
4. Shrimati K. Bharathi
5. Shri Rohit M. Dave
6. Shri Khandubhai K. Desai
7. Shrimati Jahanara Jaipal Singh
8. Shri Akbar Ali Khan
9. Shri Kishori Ram
10. Shrimati Krishna Kumari
11. Shri Bhagirathi Mahapatra
12. Dr. A. Subba Rao
13. Sardar Budh Singh
14. Shrimati Shanta Vasisht
15. Shri Abid Ali.".'.

12.23 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

MINUTES

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes of the sittings (Seventy-second to Seventy-sixth) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions held during the Twelfth Session.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Raja Mahendra Pratap (Mathura): Sir, may I know what is your decision on the notice of a motion that I sent to you? A great saint is dying in Punjab.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. This is another hon. Member whom I can never satisfy. The hon. Member—I have no objection, I will take the House into confidence—wants an adjournment of the proceedings of the House or a calling attention notice to be admitted relating to some fasting that is taking place in Amritsar. If somebody fasts in Amritsar, what has this House to do?

An Hon. Member: Punjabi Suba.

Mr. Speaker: It may be Punjabi Suba. But am I to go into this matter here, in this House?

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): Sooner or later we shall have to.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Let him not anticipate. If we have, we have. Let us see. Therefore, there is no meaning in raising it here. I have repeatedly held, apart from this, if any hon. Member or any citizen of this country takes to fasting merely to upset or change a decision that has been taken by the Government I am not going to allow that thing to be brought up here normally.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: If he dies there it will lead to great trouble all over the country; you have to consider that.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may go there and ask him to desist from doing so. (*Interruption*).

12.25 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

MINUTES

Shri Mulchand Dube (Farrukhabad): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes of the Twenty-second sitting of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House held during the Twelfth Session.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

MINUTES

Shri Barman (Cooch-Behar-Reserved-Sch. Castes): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes of the sittings (Forty-eighth to Fiftieth) of the Committee on Petitions held during the Twelfth Session.

ELEVENTH REPORT

Shri Barman: Sir, I beg to present the Eleventh Report of the Committee on Petitions.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

HUNDRED AND SECOND REPORT

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): Sir, I beg to present the Hundred and Second Report of the Estimates Committee on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-ninth Report of the Estimates Committee (Second Lok Sabha) on Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)—India Security Press, Nasik.

12.26 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED DISCOVERY OF OIL AT RUDRASAGAR, ASSAM

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"The reported discovery of oil at Rudrasagar, Assam."

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): My attention has been drawn to the reported discovery of oil at Rudrasagar in Assam. I am glad to take this opportunity to report the facts to the House.

2. Well No. 1 in Rudrasagar, Assam, was spudded in by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission on 29th May, 1960. Drilling of this Well was completed on 21st September, 1960 when the well reached the depth of 3817.32 metres. During drilling, indications of presence of oil were noted in cores and Well cuttings. Out of the four horizons which have been tested so far, three have produced only water and one produced 4 per cent of oil. Two more horizons are still to be tested. It is impossible to say what quantity of oil will be produced from Rudrasagar Well No. 1, unless testing of the remaining two horizons are completed.

12.28 hrs.

STATEMENT *RE*: DISCUSSION WITH E.N.I's. TEAM

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): I appreciate the interest of the honourable members of the House in wanting to know the progress of discussions and negotiations which the Government has been having with the team of experts from E.N.I.

The House is aware that invitations were extended to foreign oil companies to make proposals for collaboration in oil exploration and production in India. Several parties made offers; one such offer came from E.N.I. As a result of our examination of this offer and from discussions held in Italy by a representative of the Government with E.N.I., it was felt that detailed negotiations with E.N.I. should take place. At Government's instance, Mr. Mattei, Chairman of ENI, accompanied by four experts visited India between 12th December 1960 to 18th December 1960 and negotiations were held with him and his team on the offer made in respect of the various aspects of petroleum industry.

Apart from the proposal covering oil exploration and production etc., discussions were held on the possibilities of obtaining credit, at reasonable terms, from E.N.I. in the form of equipment for workshops, refineries, pipelines, petrochemical plants etc. It appears that it may be possible for us to come to some sort of an agreement on credit arrangements.

On the proposal of ENI relating to oil exploration and production, some points were clarified and broad understanding on the approach and views of either party on some others was reached. After some further study of the matter, negotiations will continue with ENI in order to achieve a settlement.

Two experts from ENI who were left behind to continue discussions on matters relating to credit facilities, have had discussions with the representatives of the Government, and preliminary ground has been cleared on the various projects to which the offer of credit will relate.

As the House will appreciate, I am not in a position to give details of the matters discussed or cleared or the points awaiting settlement, as this would prejudice the negotiations

[Shri K. D. Malaviya.]

not only with ENI but with other parties too, in the midst of which we are presently.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): The hon. Minister in his statement said that the Italian Team would do oil exploration in collaboration with the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. May I know whether this Italian Team would be engaged in the exploration of oil as an independent venture as the Stanvac did in West Bengal or it would have technical or financial collaboration of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am afraid, Sir, it will not be possible for me to give any further information than what I have done. I would request hon. Members to wait for a little more.

Shri Hem Barua: There is a basic policy. When this Ministry approached world oil interests for this sort of work they laid down a certain policy. May I know whether these oil interests would work as independent parties or they would be collaborating, so far as technical personnel or finances are concerned, with our own interests here?

Mr. Speaker: He is considering it.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Both such ideas are before us for examination and they are being examined.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): The hon. Minister just now said that he was not in a position to disclose more information to the House. In yesterday's newspapers it was published that the Italian company had agreed to invest Rs. 100 crores in collaboration with the Government of India for exploration and distribution of oil etc. May we know whether that is true or the Minister would like to contradict it?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: All that I can say, Sir, is that it is not at all an authorised statement. I have nothing more to say.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to make the position clear. In spite of our best efforts, they come out with some information. Some journal has come to me also. It has come to every hon. Member. Even when Parliament is not in session, it is said in the lobby circles—whether there is a lobby when the Parliament is not in session, God alone knows—and therefore, even from the heart of God himself, some information is somehow snatched away, casually. Therefore, an authoritative statement on the basis of what is happening may be made. But when the Government would like to keep a thing as secret, hon. Members should not ask questions. If they ask, I am not going to insist upon the hon. Ministers to give away secrets during the course of negotiations. There are secrets both for an individual as also for a country.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): Sometimes it so happens that the Ministers are unwilling to divulge any information here. Even when the session is on, they hold press conferences and they give information there.

Mr. Speaker: I am against it. I have repeatedly referred to this aspect. I had referred to this also a long time ago when somebody brought it to my notice, namely, that Shri Tyagi made a statement in Bombay—I do not know if my information is correct; it may be wrong—when he was a Minister. Some statement by a junior Minister was made in Bombay when the House was sitting here. Then I had occasion to observe that when Parliament is in session, any major statement of policy must always be made in this House and the public ought not to be taken into confidence before this House is taken into confidence. (*Interruptions*).

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Could I apologise now and request you to kindly give retrospective effect to this apology?

Mr. Speaker: Very well; I will also see that, if any details get publicity

in the press and outside, this procedure is followed, namely, I will certainly request the hon. Minister to confide in this House, though originally they might not have liked to take the House into confidence, and prematurely give information regarding any important matter here. A number of details appear in the newspapers, and certainly the people are anxious to know what the position is. Of course, it is a matter for individual consideration of each individual case.

Shri Ranga: I would like to make one request to you and through you to the Treasury Benches. While the House is in session, let them not hold press conferences in the capital city itself and make it another House.

Shri Tyagi: That is true.

Mr. Speaker: I cannot prevent any press conference, but all that I can say is, at the press conferences no new enunciation of policy may be made, a policy which was not given to this House in advance.

Shri Ranga: When the House is sitting, it is the platform for the whole of the country. The members of the press gallery are there and they take note of whatever is being said here. If the Government want to divulge any information or make any observation about the international affairs or anything, they must first come to this House or the other House. (*Interruptions*).

Shri Braj Raj Singh: A press conference is held monthly.

Shri Tyagi: ** **

Shri Braj Raj Singh: How can it be there when Parliament is in session?

CHILDREN BILL

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the care, protection, maintenance, welfare, training, education and rehabilitation of neglected or delinquent children and for the trial of delinquent children in the Union Territories, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

I should like first to mention briefly the major changes that have been made by the Joint Committee in this Bill. Under the existing provisions of the Bill, all children, whether they are delinquent or neglected....

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): Sir, I want one clarification. Item No. 12 in the Order Paper is the "Report of Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities" about which the motion is to be moved by Shri Datar. Before that, there are three or four other items. So, I want to know whether that item will come at all for discussion before this session ends. It is a very important subject. Now, the Children Bill has been taken up and then there are certain other smaller Bills coming up. So, we would like to know whether that report will come up at all for discussion even tomorrow, because tomorrow, we have only two hours for official business.

Mr. Speaker: Today, the half-an-hour discussion is also coming up at 4.30. Five hours have been allotted for discussing the report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities. Why should it not stand over? Let the children be taken care of first, through the Children Bill.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: That report came up previously, but it was held over till this session.

Mr. Speaker: What can I do? I am trying to allot as much time as possible for all measures. Let the Children Bill is passed first, and be given effect to.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat): My point is that the discussion

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**Expunged, as ordered by the Chair.

[Shrimati Renu Chakravartty.]

on the report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities should not be for less than five hours. If it happens that we have only two hours left over for it, I feel that it should not be taken up now.

Shri Supakar (Sambalpur): There is another point. The general census of 1961 is coming in the month of March next, and I think it will be very profitable if the report is discussed much earlier than that period especially before the end of this session. For, if we discuss it in the next session, it will be too late, because the new census figures may also have to be referred to during the discussion of the report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Rane is sitting there. It seems to be the desire of a section of the House that the report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities may be discussed tomorrow, and tomorrow is the last day, but the time is short. What does Shri Rane suggest?

Shri Rane (Buldana): The Bills must first be passed.

Mr. Speaker: Tomorrow is Friday. Even if we have the whole of tomorrow for official business, I wonder if we could discuss the report completely. Further, we have non-official business for 2½ hours tomorrow. Unless the non-official business is postponed—and I do not think any hon. Member will be willing to forgo it....

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): This report cannot be discussed within two hours. Unless we get more time, it is no good.

Mr. Speaker: Very well; it will go on to the next session. I will try to give top priority to it.

Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi): This may be discussed on the first day of the next session.

Mr. Speaker: Even if we take it up, it will go for two days. Let it go on. Dr. Shrimali.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I was drawing the attention of the House to the fact that originally, we had provided in the Bill that the children's court will deal with both neglected and delinquent children. This matter was discussed at very great length in the Joint Committee, and the Members felt that it would not be proper for the children's court to deal with neglected children also. There were two categories. The delinquent child commits some kind of offence—some kind of crime. In regard to such children, it will be all right for the children's court to deal with them. But, as far as the neglected children are concerned, they should not have any kind of stigma. If they go to the children's court along with the delinquent children, the general impression would go in the public to the effect that they have also committed some kind of crime. Therefore, the Joint Committee felt—and we have accepted their recommendation—that two entirely different machineries should be set up to deal with the delinquent and the neglected children.

It was also felt that in the child welfare board which would deal with neglected children there should be at least one woman. The idea was that there should be as many women as possible since it was felt that they can deal with young children in a better way than man can. In view of the fact that it may be difficult to find many qualified women for this purpose, it was laid down that there should be at least one woman member in every child welfare board.

Similarly, in the children's court also, it has been provided that there should be at least one woman member, and clause 5, which was originally clause 4, has been amended. Some amendment has also been made to sub-clause (4) of clause 9. The Joint Committee felt that rules should be

framed for giving a certificate to children's homes. It was felt that sometimes children's homes come into existence which exploit the children and all kinds of complaints are made against these institutions. In order that children may not be exploited, it was necessary that proper rules should be framed, so that they may get recognition and certificate.

Coming to clause 11—original clause 9—the committee felt that in the observation home, there should be facilities not only for accommodation, maintenance, medical examination, and treatment, but also for the development of general character and for useful occupation. So, sub-clause (3) makes provision in this behalf.

The committee also felt that when a child is placed in the custody of a statutory guardian, when it is proposed to get the child married, the permission of the competent authority should be obtained. This provision has been made in order that statutory guardians may not in any way exploit the children. So, a provision has been added to that effect.

These are some of the major changes that have been made in this Bill. As I pointed out last time when this Bill was discussed, the whole approach of this Bill is educative. I think this Bill may be considered as one of the most progressive measures. No child, for whatever offence he commits, would be tried by any other court except the children's court. Even in progressive countries like Sweden for serious offences, the children are sent to the ordinary courts. In this Bill we have gone one step forward and laid down that in no circumstances should a child be sent to an ordinary court. It was our view continuously that the child is a victim of certain circumstances; on account of certain situations in the environment, he gets into difficulties and commits some kind of offence. The whole approach should be a psychological one. An effort should be made to rehabilitate the child and not to punish him in any way. For this reason the children will be sent only to the children's court or the children's welfare board and in no circumstances they will be sent to an ordinary court.

All the other measures that have been provided in this Bill have aimed at proper understanding of the child and after proper understanding, giving them proper care and protection, so that the child, which is lost to the society, may be restored to the society. The whole approach has been psychological. A child may be lost to the society on account of circumstances for which he is not responsible. Sometimes there may be broken homes, for which the child is not responsible. The child may be born under circumstances, which may lead him astray. All these factors indicate that a different approach has to be made than what we have made in the past. When it is passed, it is our intention to set up proper institutions in order that proper care may be taken of these unfortunate children. I am quite sure that the Bill will get the unanimous support of this House.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

> "That the Bill to provide for the care, protection, maintenance, welfare, training, education and rehabilitation of neglected or delinquent children and for the trial of delinquent children in the Union Territories, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Children Bill is a great advance over the previous Children Bill which was introduced in this House and I welcome this Bill, because the conditions in which a large number of our children live in this country are really pitiable. As we travel in trains and move about the country, we see young children coming

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to us absolutely destitute, not only in the sense that they are without clothes, education or proper health, but they go about begging in the most degrading manner for the left-over, of our food. One wonders at the depth of degradation to which we have brought these youngsters in whose hands lies the future of our country.

In the villages, specially in the constituency I come from, 20 to 25 per cent of the people are widows, women who have no husbands or guardians, with little children. They are the most unfortunate, with nobody to look after them and protect them. If they go about begging for alms, it is something that weighs on our minds, because it is one of the most pitiable sights. As Members of Parliament, as a free Government, it is our duty to look after these children. They are our first responsibility and therefore, I am glad that this Bill has come before this House.

We have seen how children are wilfully maimed, so that they can go about begging for money. We see all these things, but the question is how do we set them right? One of our biggest problems has been that, whilst we have passed social laws who have not been able to implement them. Some of the social laws are good so far as legal framing is concerned. Even the sentiments expressed by members of Parliament while passing them have been laudatory. But when the question of implementation has come, unfortunately, we have lagged far behind. We have failed in bringing those social institutions into existence which are a part and parcel of these laws. Furthermore, we have failed to bring into existence the instruments which are going to heal these festering sores, and who will be looking after them. It is this approach which is the most important. It is not the right approach that we shall put our social laws for implementation in the hands of police officers—DSPs or the local police officers—or that the Cr. P. C. should be the only tenet by which we will bring about a change. This approach has to be changed. That is why I have some criticisms to make about this Bill. The purpose of the Bill I know, and I welcome it. But in its implementation I have some serious misgivings. I will come to that in detail.

For example, to me the problem is both social and economic. How are we going to stop begging, how are we going to stop the taking of alms and the maiming of children unless we are able to stop this huge poverty and this huge unemployment that we have in the country? That is a very very big question. Because I have found that even when we have passed laws against begging—as a matter of fact, I think we have passed a law whereby one cannot beg within a railway station—but at every chance I find that they do beg. And when they do beg and are unfortunately caught, what happens? Nothing happens. How do they become economically settled in life? That is one of the objectives of this Bill. Without that any number of special schools or information centres or probation officers will not be able to bring about permanent good. Therefore, this question of the economic resettlement of these children is also a very major problem.

Socially too, this whole system of alms giving and alms taking has almost been sanctified by religion. I remember seeing, when I went to Mathura a few years ago, a very large number of women and children from our State there. They are unfortunate widows, who have come there because society has been so unkind to them. The whole system of their existence is based on what we call the chanting of Radheshyams, in the temples. As you come out of temples you see beggers crowding around you and the first thing you have to do is to give alms. So, that begging at places of

pilgrimage is a system which, as I said, is almost sanctified be religion. Therefore, we come upon all these things also, as we tackle this problem.

Still, we welcome this Bill as it is a first step. We would like that it should succeed. And because we want it to succeed we want also to show what are the things on which more emphasis has to be laid.

For example, one of the things which the hon. Minister has mentioned is children's courts. We are going to have children's courts. We are not going to try the children in the ordinary courts of law. That is a very welcome thing. But these children's courts are going to function within the framework of the Criminal Procedure Code—if I am mistaken I may please be corrected. My understanding of the problem of a delinquent child or a neglected child is that it is a social problem, it is an economic problem, it is a psychological problem. As such, have the Criminal Procedure Code, if you like; but there must be much further intimate discussions and constant visits and fairly friendly approaches made, in an informal manner, with the children, the parents and everybody. That should be the job, and an integral part, of the children's court's functions. It should not be that it should be only a lawyer's job, and it should not be a magisterial approach.

I know, the hon. Minister will say, "well, we have given you the provision of a probation officer". But I say that within the magisterial provisions made, there should be a larger number of social workers. There should be a larger percentage of women, wherever available. As a matter of fact, I think that even if a woman is not very highly educated, even if a woman does not know all the intricacies of law, if she is of a motherly type with experience of children, that is the type of woman whom we want associated with the work of the children's courts.

With them we should also like to have some psychologists. Personally I am not too much in favour of psychologists, because sometimes they make the science far and above what the human approach should be; they make it into a mechanical thing. But I am in favour of having some psychologists.

Therefore, in relation to this question of magistracy who will be dealing with the children's courts, I think this is very important that women should be there, not only where possible, not only in one or two places but, I should say, in all places. Especially in cities and towns, at the district headquarters, I am sure we will be able to get a large number of women who will be able to serve on these magistrate's courts.

I want to take you now to one such clause, that is clause 59 dealing with the rule-making powers. The main essence of the entire Bill has been left to the rule-making powers. My point is, here are the delinquent children and the neglected children whom we are dealing with. The major way in which, as I have seen, for instance in Great Britain they deal with them is this, namely, that they have what they call the child giudance mothers or child guidance officers. I do not think they are always called probation officers. A probation officer has much of a police attitude attached to his work. But these child guidance clinics and officers are people who deal in a very informal manner, in a friendly manner as guidance workers, going to the houses, talking and becoming friends with the parents, with the child, the entire nighbourhood, knowing exactly what has happened, trying to put their finger as to how this child has become a delinquent, why it has become so, and if it is a psychological case it may take months for them to come to a definite conclusion as to what exactly is the cause of it. And they are a very important and integral part of the work of rehabilitating these children.

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Now, in this Bill we have provision about probation officers, and the duties of probation officers and the qualifications of probation officers and left to rule making powers. We do not have any such category which are called child guidance friends or child guidance clinics or child guidance or help officers. We do not have any such category in this. We have what are known as the probation officers. There is no sacredness attached to the name, but I say that the attitude should be that of a child guidance helper, and friend. But even here we have not clearly stated what the duties of a probation officer are; it is left to the rule-making powers. And this, I think, is a very important part of the work contemplated by this Bill. If this Bill is going to be successful, one of the major jobs will have to be done by these probation officers.

Now, for example, if many of these clauses you will find that it is the administrator who is given almost overriding powers of decision. The administrator is actually the executive head of that particular area, the Lieutenant-Governor or the Chief Commissioner of the Union territory; that is, he is a man who is generally dealing with executive matters. He is given overriding powers of decision as to whether he can bring out a child before the end of the period awarded by the court, put him from one special institution to another, or send him out of the jurisdiction of the area in which the trial has taken place. Many such powers have been given to the administrator. How this administrator is going to decide what is good and what is bad for the child has not been laid down.

I feel that in these matters the best persons who can deal with them are actually these probation officers. The job of these probation officers must be very clearly stated, that they must do the work in such a way that they will be the real help, the real guide in dealing with all these matters. As a matter of fact, the role of the probation officers seems to be under-estimated. The conception is that of a bureaucrat, as I have been trying to read the provisions. Even, there is no special section dealing with the work of the probation officers.

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There is no such section saying exactly what the work of the probation officer is. Finally I found that it has been relegated to the rule-making powers. So, as yet it is the Executive which is going to decide this. We have not put anything in the body of the Bill itself. But I feel that matters, such as, why the child has become delinquent, how he is being kept in the home to which he has been sent, whether he has been looked after and all such things should be dealt with by him and the position of a probation officer should be put on a high level. It should be a job which will be a honoured job because really it is a very difficult job. In many ways it may be a thankless job, but it will be a thankful job only when we look upon it as something which is going to deal with these young lives and is going to put into these crushed flowers some perfume and fragrance which they have lost.

Another point which I want to make is about special schools. What is envisaged about these special schools? I entirely agree that we cannot send them to ordinary schools and we must have special schools, very special schools as a matter of fact, for delinquent children. I know how very difficult it is. I am associated with some of these organisations and institutions and I do not think that we even run them very well. But about these special schools the whole thing has been left too vague by saying that the administrator may, if he so wishes, appoint a probation officer and that the administrator may, if he so desires, set up special schools. But I have a feeling that we are very, very vague even about what we mean by these

special schools. We must be clear in our minds about the categories of children who will be sent to these special schools, what will be taught in these special schools, will they only deal with the undeveloped brain, will they deal only with a child that has become delinquent as a result of some psychological defect or will they be dealing with more normal cases, will it be only psychological treatment of the child or will it be something further, will general education be added to it and whether these children will be given vocational training and guidance. What is it that we envisage by these special schools and how many special schools are we going to set up?

There are two special categories of institutions. There are the special schools about which the Bill talks. Then I think it also talks about children's homes. I presume it is meant that special schools will be schools where both types of children, delinquent and non-delinquent, will be sent as well as children who have been permitted to stay with their parents or guardians. I want to know exactly what it is. The children's homes are for children who cannot be permitted to stay at their homes.

Then there are other kinds of things also. All these things we should have made more specific. We should not leave them to rule-making powers. Many things we are enacting and are passing into law. But without the institutions that go side by side with them, everyone of these laws are becoming dead letters. If we do not synchronise them, if we do not set up sufficient number of schools or institutions side by side with these laws, these social laws will remain dead letters. There may be many even in this House who would come forward and say, "What is the use of enacting social legislation if after all they remain dead letters?" I am not one of them. Even if they remain dead letters for a time, I am for them. For rousing of public conscience I am in favour of social laws being passed. But it also lays responsibility on us that we really implement them and establish institutions which are absolutely a part of our legislation.

The third point which I want to mention is about after-care organisation to which I attach very great importance. That again I feel has been left in a very vague sort of way. I cannot say that it is there. It is there but it has been left in a very vague sort of way. Yet, after-care organisation to my mind is very important. After all, we are only going to take care of these children, that is, boys up to the age of 16 and girls up to the age of 18. Even if we have the very best of schools, children's homes, children's courts and friendly, good and efficient probation officers looking after them, they will need for a long time to come an after-care organisation to whom they can look as their friend, well-wisher and guide. They will need something of affection which they may have missed in normal life. Maybe, one may not have had a mother or a good family background. They would like to come back to this after-care organisation as their home to get guidance, help and affection. That is the type of after-care organisation which, I think, is necessary.

Secondly, what will happen to them after they leave the homes? I do not know whether they will be given vocational training and whether there will be a sort of responsibility of the State, it may be of an informal character but still the moral responsibility of the State will be there to see that we get them some sort of a job or put them into some sort of a position to earn for themselves a place of dignity in society. I know at least in our own social welfare institution, although it is not a part of the contract—we always say that—we do not send out the girls—I know only about girls—until we can put them in some safe job and some good family. We try to see that. It is the responsibility of these homes also to do so. Once that has been done we must see that this after-care organisation looks to what is happening.

In many of our rehabilitation centres we know we have taught many girls

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but nobody knows where they have gone, whether they are living or are dead or whether they have gone again begging on the streets or not. If we really want to bring about some change in the whole sad state of affairs of our young people begging in the streets and leading a life of degradation, this after-care organisation is very very important.

That is why I say that while it is really a welcome Bill, these are things which have been left in a very casual manner. The whole thing has been left to the rule-making power. Of course, there is a clause saying that every rule made under this section shall be laid before each House of Parliament while it is in session and therefore we shall have a chance of seeing that. Certainly, we shall do our best to see that and take notice of what has been made under those rules. But together with that, the social institutions and instruments for running those institutions, the courts, the probation officers' work and all that must also be brought into being with not only efficient people but with people who really love children, who will guide them and will be their friend, philosopher and guide.

Mr. Speaker: Shrimati Renuka Ray: Let me give a chance to mothers first.

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Hapur): Not to fathers?

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav (Malegaon): Fathers also play an equal part.

Shrimati Renuka Ray (Malda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the Provisional Parliament we passed some very good and sound Acts in regard to the improvement of labour conditions. When we did that we felt that this was—and it is of course—the nucleus of a future code for the labour in our country and for their conditions of living. Since those days, I should say about ten or eleven years have gone by and yet many of the conditions which we hoped would be fulfilled with the passing of that legislation have not taken place. I bring this to your notice not because I would like to detract from the goodness or soundness of the Children's Bill which is before the House today. I think it is very necessary. I also think that it was long due and that it will certainly be a method by which we shall implement the Directive Principles of State Policy in which we have said that youth and the child shall be protected. All these things are there.

There is no doubt that this Bill has come at a time when it is more than desired. I should like to congratulate the hon. Education Minister on it. But at the same time, as I said just now, we have got to see that this Bill that has come and which will be enacted today most likely will actually be implemented in such a manner that we do not have to say after another decade that we were not able to implement it in a sound way. If we are to do this, the most important thing is that the homes that are to come side by side with the passage of this Bill should be run in a manner that is fitting and that will carry out what is required. The previous speaker has said something about this. I would particularly like to lay emphasis on one or two things.

Firstly, it is not possible really for us to expect very great results on a widespread scale unless we have welfare personnel adequately trained for this purpose. At the present moment, we may have many people who have a great desire to help but who may not be adequately trained for the purpose. This is particularly so where we are dealing with delinquent children. In the case of delinquent children, the whole thing has to be treated with a great deal of care. There are delinquent children and delinquent children. Today, even in the schools of the upper middle classes, where the children of the richer elements go, we find that where the school is good and sound one, a great deal of care is given to the training of the child from the very beginning so that it does

not become in any way a delinquent child. I do not mean to say that a delinquent child is the poor man's or beggar's child which is taken up to the court of law. There are other types of delinquent children who have to be dealt with. This is being done to some extent on a very small scale. But, we do not have the personnel. If we are to have Probation officers, if we are to have the people who are going to look after the homes, we must have trained personnel to see that once a delinquent child is brought to the home, he is really given proper training. Otherwise, what happens is, after some time, the same conditions obtain and we do not bring about the objectives with which this Bill has come before the House. Of course, this Bill has, naturally, to be limited to the Union Territories. But, it can well be a model for all the States. Since it has a restricted sphere in which it can operate, I would request the hon. Education Minister, who is not listening to me at the moment . . .

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I am listening.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: I know that he is very anxious about it that this should come to a successful fruition. I have not got the time, nor do I want to labour the point. There were certain suggestions made by the Social Welfare team on this particular point in regard to children's homes and other homes. I would request him that these should be really taken into consideration and implemented. It is no use our having legislation unless we have the means whereby this legislation can be implemented: not merely by going to courts of law and having delinquent children dealt with there, but in actual fact, having homes where these could be looked after in a proper manner. Having gone round the country, I speak from experience that the type of homes that have recently been setting up in many of the States does not and cannot possibly deal with this question in a proper manner. It is absolutely and urgently required that, if we are to deal with the child who is today on the streets, neglected or delinquent, we do not only have to have this Bill passed, but, at least in the Union Territories, which are under the hon. Minister's purview, bring into being such homes where this problem is dealt with properly. For that, even the preliminary step of having trained personnel who are going to deal with them, has not been taken. I would ask him to take that action first, so that, at least he can say that, in the Union Territories, the Children Act, once it is passed, is operated in a manner which is a model, not only in the way of legislative enactment, but in the way of its working, for the whole of India.

Before concluding, there is only one other point that I want to make. This legislation which is being brought in the Centre, is a good thing and something which we all desire. It has also to be seen that all the States in India take similar action. There are States which are keen about this. There are others which are indifferent about it. Of course, to the extent that is possible, I am sure, the hon. Minister and those who work from the Centre, the Social Welfare Board and others, will see to it that the State Governments are equally interested and such legislation is passed. As I said, the passing of the legislation is not going to bring about the results by itself. Today, unlike when I was inexperienced and said in the Provisional Parliament that it was a red letter day that labour legislation had been passed, I have to be more subdued and say that it will be a red letter day, not when this Bill is enacted, but when the Bill is operated in the right manner and with the right approach, so that childhood and youth are, indeed, protected in our society.

Mr. Speaker: Shrimati Jayaben Shah. I am going to call all ladies first and then come to men. Tell me a single case. So long as a child is a child, will it prefer the mother or the father?

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri (Nabadwip): The child will prefer the mother.

Shri D. C. Sharma: If the child has no mother, it prefers the father.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: The opinion of the Tata Research Institute is otherwise.

Mr. Speaker: I will give opportunities to all.

श्रीमती जियाबेन शाह (गिरनार) : माननीय सभापति महोदया, इस चिल्ड्रेन्स बिल पर बहुत कुछ राज्य-सभा में और यहां भी कहा गया है और मुझे तो इस के बारे में पहली बात यह निवेदन करनी है कि यह बिल जो कि यूनियन टैरीटेरीज के वास्ते बनाया गया है अच्छा होता अगर इस तरह का एक यूनिफार्म लेजिस्लेशन सारे देश के वास्ते बना होता और अगर ऐसा हुआ होता तो बहुत अच्छा होता। ऐसा मैं इस कारण से कहत. हूं क्योंकि कई स्टेट्स में ऐसे ऐक्ट बने हुए हैं मगर उन पर जितना ध्यान देना चाहिये उतना ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है। इह के अलावा दूसरी बात यह है कि ज्वाइंट कमेटी ने जो इस बिल में सुधार किये हैं वे सुधार भी स्टेट्स के ऐक्ट्स में नहीं हैं और वही पुराने ढंग का लेजिस्लेशन वहां पर चल रहा है। इसलिये मेरी प्रार्थना है कि इस पर भी कुछ सोचा जाये और सारे देश में एक यूनिफार्म लेजिस्लेशन इस तरह का लागू करने की बात सोची जाये।

सही बात तो यह है कि जब हम अपने देश की हालत को देखते हैं तो पाते हैं कि सारे देश के जो बच्चे हैं वे सभी किसी न किसी कैटेगरीज में आ जाते हैं। ज्यादातर डैस्टट्यूट्स हैं, नैगलेक्टेड भी हैं और ऐसा जमाना आया है कि अनकंट्रोल्ड चिल्ड्रेन भी होते जा रहे हैं। इस में खुशनसीबी की बात यह है कि यहां पर ऐसी हालत होने पर भी डेलीक्वेंसी दूसरे देशों की उपेक्षा बहुत कम है। हमारे देश की अपेक्षा अमरीका वगैरह में डेलीक्वेंसी अधिक है। वहां धन दौलत बहुत अधिक होने पर भी डैलीक्वेंसी बहुत ज्यादा है और हमारे यहां इतनी डैलीक्वेंसी नहीं है। यह अलबत्ता हमारे लिये एक डीमिंग फीचर है।

जब एक ऐसा बिल आता है तो हमारे दिल में आता है कि हम सारे देश के बच्चों के लिये कुछ कर पायें और हमारे दिल में कुछ इस तरह के करैक्टिव मेजर से बढ़ कर करने की बात आती है। और इसलिये मैं इस से आगे जा कर कुछ कहना चाहती हूं। यह बात बिल्कुल सही है कि प्रीवेशन इज बैटर दैन क्योर। बच्चे कैसे नैगलेक्टेड होते हैं, डैलीक्वेंट कैसे होते हैं और अनकंट्रोलेबुल कैसे होते हैं, उन के कारणों में हमें जाना चाहिये। अगर उन में हम नहीं जाते हैं और जब बिगाड़ हो जाता है तो उस के सुधार पर जाते हैं तो मैं समझती हैं कि यह हमारे देश का जो मसला है वह हम कभी भी ठीक से हल नहीं कर पायेंगे। हमारे देश के बच्चे क्यों ऐसे हो रहे हैं और नैगलेक्टेड क्यों हैं इस पर भी मैं इस सदन का ध्यान दिलाना चाहती हूं। हमारे देश में गरीबी (पावर्टी) इस का मेन काज हो सकता है। लेकिन मुझे यह कहने में भी दुख होता है कि हमारे देश में पेयरेन्ट्स को, माता पिता को, अपने बच्चों के प्रति अपने कर्तव्य को जितना समझना चाहिये, उतना वे नहीं समझते हैं। मैं यह कहना चाहती हूं कि चिल्ड्रेन हमारे देश का सब से बड़ा धन है। उन को कैसे आगे बढ़ाया जाए, उन के लिये कैसा एनवायरनमेंट बनाया जाये, यह सारे देश के लिये सोचने की बात है। लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि आज इस देश में ऐसी हालत नहीं है कि जिस में बच्चों को आगे बढ़ने का मौका मिल सके और उन पर अच्छे संस्कार डाले जा सकें। इस बारे में खास तौर से विचार किया जाना चाहिये।

आज ऐसा वातावरण, ऐसा वायु-मण्डल बन गया है, जिस में सारे समाज में वेल्यूज लुप्त होती जा रही है और हम सुपरफ्लुअस

और आर्टिफिशियल लाइफ में पड़ते जा रहे हैं। इस अवस्था में मैं यह समझती हूं कि चाहे हम ऐसे कई विधेयक सदन के सामने रखें, तो भी हमारा कोई मकसद बन रही आयेगा। मुझे माफ कीजिये। लेकिन मैं समझती हूं कि आज हमारे देश में फिल्म्ज और सिनेमा हमारे बच्चों को बिगाड़ रहा हैं और डेलीक्वेंट बना रहा है। आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि फिल्म्ज का अच्छी तरह से सेन्सर होना चाहिये, जोकि आज ठीक तरह से नहीं होता है। हमारे छोटे-छोटे बच्चे डेलीक्वेंसी की बातें ज्यादातर फिल्मों में देखते हैं और उन से उन के माइन्ड्ज पर बहुत बुरा प्रभाव पड़ता है। अगर इस बात का सरवे किया जाये कि बच्चों को बिगाड़ने में ज्यादा से ज्यादा किस का हाथ है, तो मुझे विश्वास है कि फिल्म्ज ही उस का सब से बड़ा कारण पाई जायेंगी। मैं ऐजूकेशन मिटिस्र से प्रार्थना करती हूं कि फिल्मों के ऊपर हमारा कुछ ज्यादा कंट्रोल हो, और जैसा कि सब को मांग है, अगर सेन्सर बोर्ड को कुछ रेगुलेट किया जा सके, तो हमारा आधा काम बच जायेगा।

हम कहते हैं कि हमारे बच्चे अनकंट्रोलेबल हैं, इनडिसिप्लिन्ड हैं। लेकिन प्रश्न यह है कि उन को क्या चाहिये। उन में शक्ति भरी हुई है, जिस के लिये एक्सप्रेशन का साधन होने चाहिये। उन को इस बात का मौका मिलना चाहिये कि उन में जितनी ताकत है, उसको वे एक्सप्रेस कर सकें। हमारे देश में सामाजिक एवं राजकीय परिस्थिति ऐसी है, जिस की वजह से बच्चों को ऐसा मौका नहीं मिलता है और इस कारण उन की शक्ति का बहुत ह्रास हो रहा है।

माननीय सदस्या, श्रीमती रेणु चक्रवर्ती, ने कहा है कि सब से बड़ा सवाल चिल्ड्रेन्ज एक्ट के इम्पलिमेंटेशन का होता है। इस विषय में मेरी शिकायत यह है कि जब इस प्रकार का कोई बिल बनता है, तो रूल्ज पर उस के इम्पलीमेंटेशन का ज्यादा भार छोड़ देना खतरनाक होता है, क्योंकि इम्पलीमेंट करने वाले बहुत छोटे छोटे आफिसर होते हैं, जोकि अपने दिमाग से चलते हैं और कभी कभी इतने रिजिड हो जाते हैं कि हमारा उद्देश्य, हमारा आबजेक्ट ही मर जाता है। यह बिल्कुल जरूरी है कि इस बारे में जो कोर्ट बनेगी, उस का कुछ दूसरा तरीका होगा। जैसा कि पहले भी कहा गया है, अगर सिर्फ क्रिमिनल लाज पर ध्यान दे कर हम चलें, तो फिर हम को कोई खास फायदा नहीं होगा। जहां तक स्पेशल स्कूल्ज का सम्बन्ध है, हमें ऐसे होम्ज, स्पेशल स्कूल्ज, चिल्ड्रेन्ज होम्ज और दूसरी संस्थायें देखने का मौका मिला है, जिन में इस तरह काम होता है मानो वे पुरानी रेफर्मेटरी या यतीमखाने हों। उस तरफ खास ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये और ऐसी संस्थाओं में ऐसी सुविधायें दी जाय कि बच्चों को अच्छा खाने पीने को मिले और उन के लिये अच्छी एजूकेशन की व्यवस्था हो ताकि उन का मेन्टल और फिजिकल डेवेलपमेंट हो। अगर ऐसा न किया जा सका, तो यह बिल बिल्कुल फेल हो जायगा।

जहां तक नैग्लेक्टेड चिल्ड्रेन और डेलिक्वेंट चिल्ड्रेन्स का सवाल है, हमारे देश में नेग्लेक्टे चिल्ड्रेन की तादाद ज्यादा ही रहेगी, जबकि डेलीक्वेंट चिल्ड्रेन की तादाद कम होगी और उन में भी हैबिचुअल आफेंडर्स की तादाद तो बहुत कम रहेगी। उन में से हर एक के लिये हमको अलग अलग इलाज करना पड़ेगा। इस में कोई सन्देह नहीं कि यह एक बड़ा ह्यूमन प्राबलम और साइकालाजीकल प्राबलम है। यदि इस बात को ध्यान में रख कर हम इस सवाल को हल करने की कोशिश करेंगे, तभी हम बच्चों का सुधार कर सकेंगे और उन को रिहैबिलिटेट कर सकेंगे, वर्ना स्थिति यह होगी कि जितने समय वे हमारे पास रहेंगे तब तक ठीक रहेंगे और बाहर जा कर पहले ढंग से काम करने लगेंगे।

[श्रीमती जियाबेन शाह]

इस विषय में एक बात कहने में मुझे दुख और शर्म होती है कि लड़कियों के बारे में जो स्थिति इस समय है, उसकी व्यवस्था इस बिल में नहीं की गई है। जहां तक मेरा अनुभव है, ज्यादातर लड़कियां ऐसी हैं, जो कि इस ऐक्ट के नीचे आयेंगी, लेकिन इम्मौरल ट्रेफ़िक की रोक-थाम करने के लिये आवश्यक है कि इस बिल में लड़कियों की एज जो अठारह साल रखी गई है, उसको इक्कीस साल तक बढ़ा देना चाहिये।

Mr. Chairman: It is already 20 for girls.

Shrimati Jayaben Shah: I think it is 16, and 18.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: 18 for girls.

श्रीमती जियाबेन शाह : जब हमने सौराष्ट्र में ऐसा बिल बनाया, तो बहुत सी लड़कियों को उसके नीचे रखा, लेकिन एज के बारे में इतना झगड़ा हुआ कि उनको छोड़ देना पड़ा। ऐसा होता है कि जब लड़कियां छोटी छोटी होती हैं, तो और लोग उनको उठा कर ले जाते हैं और उनको पाल कर बड़ा करते हैं और फिर उनसे प्रास्टीच्यूशन करवाते हैं। इसलिये यह आवश्यक है कि ऐसे केसिज भी इस कानून के नीचे आयें और ऐसे व्यक्तियों को गार्डियनशिप प्रूव करनी पड़े। ऐसे मामले भी चिल्ड्रेन्ज कोर्ट के पास जायें और इसके साथ ही जो अपील का राइट रखा गया है, उसके बारे में कुछ विचार करना जाहिये। हम अक्सर देखते हैं कि हम किसी बहन को बहुत तकलीफ उठा कर बचाते हैं, लेकिन वे लोग अपील में छूट जाते हैं। ऐसी कैटेगरी के लिए कोई खास सुविधा होनी चाहिए, वर्ना इस कानून का खास फायदा उन बहिनों को नहीं पहुंचेगा।

इम्मारल ट्रैफिक के मामलों से सम्बन्धित लड़कियों का सारे का सारा नाता प्रास्टीच्यूशन के साथ है। इसलिए जब तक हम प्रास्टीच्यूशन को रेगुलेट और प्राहिबट नहीं कर सकेंगे, तब तक उसको हम इस ऐक्ट से बन्द नहीं कर सकेंगे। बच्चों को बचाने के साथ ही साथ यह भी हमारा फ़र्ज़ है।

इसके बाद मैं आफ़टर केयर होम्ज के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहती हूं। मैं मानती हूं कि चिल्ड्रेन्ज कोर्ट्स दूसरी कोर्ट्स से अलग हैं, लेकिन लोग तो समझते हैं कि उनका बच्चा जेल में गया है। वे यह नहीं समझते कि उस बच्चे के सुधार और रिफ़ार्म के लिए व्यवस्था की गई है। इसलिए जब वह बच्चा बाहर आता है, तो लोग उसको स्वीकार नहीं करते हैं। वे कहते हैं कि यह क्रिमिनल है, ऐसा है, वैसा है। इस अवस्था में आफ़टर केयर एसोसियेशन्ज बनना बहुत जरूरी है। मैं मानती हूं कि गवर्नमेंट के पास इतनी मशीनरी नहीं है कि वह इसके लिए कुछ कर सके। मैं यह प्रर्थना करती हूं कि जिन यूनियन टेरीटरीज में इसको लागू किया जाये, वहां आफ़टर केयर एसोसियेशन्ज बनाई जायें और इस बारे में पूरा पूरा बन्दोबस्त हो कि बच्चों को इन्डस्ट्रीज में ट्रेनिंग दी जाये, उनको अच्छी एजूकेशन दी जाय, ताकि वहां से बाहर आकर व अपने पांव पर खड़े हो सकें और समाज में उचित स्थान पा सकें।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल को वैलकम करती हूं और एजूकेशन मिनिस्टर महोदय को धन्यवाद देती हूं।

Dr. Atchamamba (Vijayavada): As everyone has agreed, this Children Bill is certainly very commendable, and a very urgent necessity for the society. When free and compulsory education comes into force hundred per cent, then, this problem may lessen in magnitude, and I hope it will lessen. But, as things stand, today, we have a lot of children, both neglected and delinquent.

I happen to be a magistrate in one of these children's courts in Andhra

Pradesh. So, I know how many children are brought every day into the reception homes and are sent to the different schools. We have to examine this problem very carefully.

Till now, we have not been separating the neglected children from the delinquent children. All of them have been treated in the same manner. They are brought to the children's courts in the same manner and are sent to the different schools or homes in the same manner. I am very glad that we are now separating them.

Most of these neglected children are brought by the police from the railway platforms. Otherwise, it is very difficult to get at them. We do not see the police going to their homes or anybody sending a child to the police saying that he is a neglected child. Most of these children who are brought to the children's courts are brought by the police from the platforms where they are wandering. Of course, most of them are children who have run away from their homes, because the parents have beaten them or because they could not get on or because they have fallen in the company of some other children who are adicted to wander about. We have got our officers, and we send word to the parents through them and then get them to the courts. If we feel that the children can be admonished and sent back to the care of the parents, we send them back. But it is very difficult to deal even with these children, because they might not have run away from the family for the first time; they might have run away in that manner twice or thrice before and they do not give real addresses. So, it takes a long time for the probation officer to find out the real parents, their address, before they can know anything about the background of the child. So, it happens that these children are kept in the observation homes for a number of months. I know of a child who has been there in the observation home for about six to nine months. During that period, he was simply being fed and kept there. So, I feel that when these children are brought to these homes, if we are able to send them away immediately after knowing their background etc., it is all right; otherwise, we should have a provision for taking care not only of their health and food but also with regard to their education. That has to be provided for.

Then, we have children's boards and magistrate's courts. We have boards for the neglected children, and magistrates for the juvenile delinquents. Whether with regard to the boards or with regard to the magistrates, I have not been able to find out whether they are going to be honorary or paid. So far, they have all been honorary. Particularly, the magistrates have been honorary ones taken from among the public, and all of them are women, and very rightly too. For, the field of children is the special field of women, and it is they who can deal with the children, with understanding, affection and care, because they are mothers; only a mother can know the difficulties and treat a child with understanding. In fact, when, as a magistrate, I used to come across children who were brought before me, I used to ask myself, 'Suppose my own daughter had committed this thing, how would I treat her. That was how I used to think, and not sit as a magistrate only and look at the child as a criminal. This kind of attitude that I have adopted as a magistrate is a very great necessity, and I feel that only women can have that attitude towards children.

So, when I saw the provision that there shall be at least one woman magistrate, I was really surprised. I would have appreciated if they had said that at least one man must be there, but I do not concede even that. I feel that all these magistrates who are to deal with these children must invariably be women. As far as the officers and staff are concerned, men may be employed in those posts; so, it is not as though a whole department has been given away to women only. If women want to do their duty and want a special arena where they could put to use

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their special knowledge of children, I do not think Government should grudge it.

I would also say that they should be honorary. Otherwise, when they are paid, the whole thing becomes very official. We want a different set-up and a different attitude to deal with these children, not the official attitude or the official set-up. As we all know, the very concept of criminology has changed in the whole world. We are no longer treating criminals as criminals; we only feel that there is something wrong with their mind, that is, psychologically, they are unfit mentally or somewhat diseased. That is very much so with regard to children.

When we are thinking of honorary magistrates, we have to change our concept with regard to their qualifications etc. It has been stated here that they should pass certain examinations or that they should possess some diplomas in child psychology and so on. I do not mind if Government choose to give some training in child psychology or in some special knowledge with regard to these children, and the act, to the persons who are chosen to serve on these boards or in the courts. But I do not agree when it is said that they must have some degrees or diplomas.

I find that the word 'illegitimate' has been used in this Bill with regard to certain children. It has been provided that the costs of keeping these children in the homes shall be recovered from their parents, if there are any, and in the case of illegitimate children, from the putative parents. I object to the word 'illegitimate'. It should be completely deleted, because it is alien to our *Bharatadesa*. In all of our Indian languages, we do not find the word 'illegitimate' at all. It is something which is alien to us. The very idea is alien. That is why in our *shastras*, we have mentioned different types of marriages, but all the children are *satsantanas*, because they, our ancients, were of the view that this stigma shall not be there for the child. They have held firmly that the mother and the child shall not suffer due to any misdeed of any man. So, I do not understand why we should follow the foreign idea and have this word 'illegitimate' in this Bill. It is enough to say that either the parents or whoever is liable for payment should pay the costs. If we can find the exact father, we can ask the father to pay the costs. But we need not stigmatise the child and say 'illegitimate child'. I feel that it is absolutely alien to us, and it is wrong to use such a term, and it shall be removed, and it cannot go into the Bill.

As regards the psychological aspect, as I was saying a little while ago, our very conception of criminology has changed. So, these children must necessarily be treated psychologically, and for this purpose we must have psychological specialists, and not psychological faddists,—as you, Madam Chairman, have pointed out—specialists who will understand with affection and care all these children, and having a full knowledge of the circumstances of their parents, their economic condition eac. will try to understand why the child is behaving in that particular fashion.

I know of so many boys, who come from very good families, but who have fallen into the hands of absolute crooks. These crooks tempt those little children. They tell the child, 'We shall give you four annas, if only you try to cut that *kutchu* and bring it here' and so on. The child does not understand it. The child thinks that it is just fun. But once the child has got into the grip of these people, they cannot easily escape from them, because they threaten to beat him or kill him. The child cannot tell his parents about it, because he is afraid of the parents. Thus, the child has to be rescued from the grips of these elders. When these delinquent children are brought in, we should see why they are delinquent? You have to trace this delin-

quency to the elders who are driving them to be delinquent. This is a very very important thing. What we do is we simply take the child, say something about him and then send him to some home or school. If we want to eradicate this evil of delinquency in children, we must trace the cause back to the original source—the big people who are behind this delinquency. We have all read in *Oliver Twist* how the author describes the gangsters there. You have to trace the child's delinquency to these gangsters. The child is terribly afraid of these people. If you remove him from that atmosphere and rescue him from the hands of those people, he will be perfectly all right.

We have said that we will treat the neglected children and delinquent children in different ways. It is quite right. When we rescue a child, we have to give him a psychological treatment. Afterwards, he should be removed to the neglected children's group and given a break.

As regards adoption, it is really a very good thing, because to rehabilitate a child in the normal family atmosphere, where there is a family with father, mother and children, is a very useful thing. But it is very difficult to find people who will naturally take these delinquent children, because they are afraid. Also many of these delinquent children do not immediately change from the old order. So it is very difficult to find families who will take in these children. But after some time in these state homes, if we find that they have changed, there must be a committee which will be on the lookout to see where these children can be taken in into families. If we find that these delinquent children have changed, they should be put back into society, as it were, into families.

So there must be different stages. It is not as though you have dubbed a child delinquent and sent him to a school and there the matter ends. You have to watch him and see how he changes. When he is reformed, there must be a career open to him. As Shrimati Renu Chakravartty and Shrimati Renuka Ray pointed out, the provision about career is very important. There is no use in our simply satisfying ourselves that we have the courts, the children are brought there and then they are sent to children's homes, and then at the age of 18 they are let loose on the world. What we have to see is not only that they undergo a psychological change and a change in their outlook, but also to see that when they come out, they are not lost in the world, but a career is ready for them where they can go and get some money and stand on their own legs. This is a very very important thing. This is much more important in the case of a girl. When she comes out and finds no career, and no home, where is she to go? Naturally, she will fall into the hands of anybody. As soon as she becomes 18 and we send her out, where is she to go if there is no career chalked out for her? When she has nothing, she will naturally walk into brothels. This is what will happen if we are not careful in providing them a definite career when they come out of these homes. We should also fit them into jobs in places where they can be economically perfectly independent and can stand on their own legs. This is a very important thing. Till now we have not really put it into practice, though in theory we have talked about it.

I know one thing from personal knowledge when I deal with these children in the court. I am very sorry to say that in these homes these children are treated so badly that they come out much worse at the end; because they have not learnt kindness and softness; they have only learnt bitterness. This is because the schools where these children are kept are like borstal schools. So they become hard-hearted and bitter against the world and against society. This directly leads them to crime and naturally to jails.

So we have to be very careful to see that all these things are attended

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to. The psychological basis of the whole process has to be understood and the children treated accordingly.

Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi): In a country like India where family planning is meaningless, where multiplication of population has been going on just for the sake of fun without realisation of its consequences or its impact on the economy of the country, where children are produced in millions and most of them are left to their own destiny and not properly cared for and so they fall victims to all the anti-social elements of society, a Bill of this type is overdue. I congratulate the authorities on coming forward with this Bill at long last. I welcome the Bill. Better late than never.

The importance of looking after neglected and delinquent children cannot be over-emphasised. I feel that it is the duty of the State to give protection and proper care to all children and to prepare them to be ideal citizens of this nation. After all, the children are the flowers of our nation. They are our future generation and on their well-being depends the future of the nation. So they cannot be allowed to be ill-treated, or be victims of the bad characters of society. It is the duty of the State to stretch its long hands to give them protection.

Children are after all children. Immature, as they are mentally and physically, they fall victims to all the anti-social elements. If you will trace the history of any neglected or delinquent child, you will come to the conclusion that he is a victim of circumstances. These children become victims of the social environment. If you trace the history of any of the children offences, you will find that the offence is due to some economic reason like poverty or other reason like lack of paternal care or victimisation by society. So in all cases of neglected or delinquent children, it is the duty of the State to give them proper care.

So far as this Bill is concerned, it envisages provision for children's homes for neglected children and special schools for delinquent children. I beg to submit that it is very difficult to distinguish between neglected children and delinquent children. It is very difficult to have a water-tight compartment and draw a line between neglected children and delinquent children. So instead of there being water-tight compartments, there should be provision for exchange. If they cannot be properly dealt with in the children's home, some of the children may be transferred from there to the special school, or if they have shown improvement in the special school, they may be transferred to the children's home.

In clause 21(4) there is provision for imparting religious instruction according to the religious denomination of the child and that no religious instruction shall be imparted contrary to the religious persuasion of the child. This provision only applies to the special school and to the persons to whose care these children have been committed. But, I beg to submit that this should be extended to the Children's Homes also.

I personally feel that the Children's Homes should not be State-owned. In our bureaucracy it is very difficult to find the right type of persons who will be specially suited for this kind of job; only women would be temperamentally suited to look after these Homes. It requires a great deal of patience. The persons in charge must have natural love for children and thye must be well-versed in child psychology. They must be fired with the missionary spirit to serve the cause of children. Special type of social workers are needed to look after such homes. So, instead of having State-owned Home, I submit that all impetus and encouragement should be given to private individuals or private missions like the Ramakrishna Mission or the Arya Samaj or municipalities, because this problem is very acute in the urban areas

to have special homes for children and there should be provision in this Bill to give financial assistance to similar privately-owned homes.

The magnitude of the problem is so huge that it would be futile to just tinker with it or to have a few Children's Homes as show-pieces. That would not solve the problem. We must have a regular census of such children and we must have an adequate number of Children's Homes to cope with the magnitude of the problem and to effectively deal with this problem. I submit that adequate resources should be placed at the disposal of these boards so that the problem could be effectively tackled. At the same time, efforts should be made to place these children in private homes where there are no children and where they could be adopted. It should be assured that they would get the same treatment as if they are the real children of those homes. If people volunteer for this kind of work, then, all sorts of assistance should be given by the State.

In the definition clause you will find that a child is defined as:

> '"Child" means a boy who has not attained the age of sixteen years or a girl who has not attained the age of eighteen years;'

In the case of the girl the age limit should be 18 years but in the case of boys the age limit should be increased to 20 years because a girl attains both mental and physical maturity much earlier than a boy. I cannot understand the reason why the age limit has been fixed at a higher level in the case of a girl and lower in the case of a boy.

So far as beggar children are concerned, we shall have to be ruthless in this regard. Of course, it will be very difficult and it will require proper handling to take away the children from their parents even if they are beggars. But, we shall have to do that. We cannot afford beggars' children to be brought up in that social environment. By that we shall be perpetuating future generations of beggars.

As pointed out by you, Madam Chairman, it is no use thinking that by passing social legislation of this type alone we shall be able to eliminate the beggar problem in this country. We shall have to raise the standard of living and we shall have to provide employment for these beggars. If we want to stop begging, then, we shall have to be ruthless and we shall have to take away those children by force from those parents and place them in proper Children's Homes.

So far as lepers are concerned, I submit that the children of lepers should also be taken away from them before they catch any infection from the parents. They should get the same treatment in Children's Homes.

I think, for being magistrates in these courts or for being members of the Boards women would be the most temperamentally suited. So, I would like that all the posts should be filled in by women.

The application of the Bill is confined only to the Union territories. I submit that this should be passed as early as possible with improvements and a directive should be issued by the Centre to all the States that similar legislation should be enforced in their territories also. It is no use tackling this problem piecemeal.

Lastly, I beg to submit that this Bill envisages interference by the police. If the least interference is done by the police, it would be doing disservice to the cause of children. So, a more psychological and human approach is necessary to these problems than interference by the police.

With these remarks I welcome the Bill and submit that instead of allowing this Act to remain as a dead letter, it should be properly implemented in the right spirit and adequate resources

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should be placed at the disposal of the Boards so that this problem could be tackled effectively.

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू (सीतापुर) : सभानेत्री महोदया, पेश्तर इसके कि मैं इस बिल पर कुछ कहूं मैं एजूकेशन मिनिस्टरी और एजूकेशन मिनिस्टर साहब को बहुत मुबारकबाद देती हूं कि आज वह दिन आया कि यह चिल्ड्रेंस बिल इस हाउस में आया। इस चिल्ड्रेन बिल के बारे में मैं समझती हूं कि पिछले ६,७ साल से इसका जिक्र मैं सुनती चली आती हूं कि इस तरह का एक एक्ट बच्चों के लिए बनने वाला है। इस बिल को तैयार करने और इम्प्रूव करने के लिए जो ज्वाएंट कमेटी बैठाई गई थी उसमें मैं भी थी और हमने वहां इस बिल के हर एक क्लाज को बहुत अच्छी तरह से देखा भाला और जहां तक हमसे बन पड़ा हमने इस बिल को सुधार कर मौजदा शक्ल में तैयार किया।

जैसे कि श्रीमती रेणु चक्रवर्ती ने कई चीजें बताईं और प्रोबेशन आफिसर्स के नाम का जिक्र किया और कहा कि यह ठीक नहीं है और मैं भी इस चीज को मानती हूं कि यह शब्द जरूर हमारे कानों को कुछ बुरा सा लगता है लेकिन हमारे यहां और कोई दूसरा नाम अभी आया नहीं है और पश्चिमी देशों में जैसे कि बच्चों के वास्ते आफटर केयर आरगनाईजेशन्स हैं मसलन चिल्ड्रन नर्सरीज या चिल्ड्रेन होम्स और औबजरवेशन होम्स वगैर होते हैं हमारे यहां अभी एसी व्यवस्था नहीं हो पायी है और हम अभी उस दिशा में शुरूआत ही कर रहे हैं। पश्चिम में इन संस्थाओं के नाम भी अलग अलग हैं और उनमें बच्चों के साथ बर्ताव अलग अलग होता है। इस बिल के बारे में मुझे यही कहना है कि बच्चों की साइकालोजी को समझना और इसके मुताबिक काम करना एक बड़ी सख्त मुश्किल चीज है। मेरी राय में यह बिल बड़ा कठिन और सख्त है और इसको चलाना आसान काम नहीं है। थर्ड फ़ाइव यीअर प्लान हमारे सामने है। उसके साथ साथ हमको अपनी नेशन को, अपने राष्ट्र को बनाना है, जिसका मतलब यह है कि हम को देश के हर एक व्यक्ति को तैयार करना है, खास कर बच्चों को तैयार करना है। बच्चों को तैयार करने के बारे में यह सवाल हमारे सामने आता है कि हम किन हाथों से बच्चों को तैयार करें। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब पुरुष हैं, हमारे भाई हैं, लेकिन हमको ऐसा लगता है कि पुरुषों के हाथ से यह काम होने वाला नहीं है। इस लिए नहीं कि पुरुषों में कोई कमी है, बल्कि इस लिए कि स्त्री को भगवान के घर से ही बच्चों की देख-भाल करने का गुण मिला है। उनका ध्यान रखना, उनकी देख-भाल करना उनका धर्म है। नेचर ने उसको ऐसा बनाया है। जिस पुरुष को पाल पोस कर, अच्छी बातें सिखा कर मां ने बड़ा किया है, वह यह नहीं कह सकता कि अगर उसके पालन पोषण में उसकी मां का हाथ न होता, तो वह खुद-ब-खुद बड़ा हो जाता और सब कुछ सीख जाता। मां बच्चों के लिए सैक्रीफ़ाइस करती है।

14 hrs.

इस लिए इन व्याख्यानों को सुन कर मुझे लगता है कि इस बिल को चलाने के लिए हमको बहुत सारे मसाले की जरूरत है, मसलन होम्ज, आफ़िसर्ज और कचेहरियां वग़ैरह। लेकिन सब से पहले हमको ऐसे लोगों को तैयार करना है, जो चाइल्ड साइकालोजी को समझते हैं, जिनके हृदय में दया हो, जो बर्दाश्त करना जानते हों, जो बच्चों को जरा जरा सी बात पर चपत और चांटा न लगायें। अगर हम इन होम्ज को चलाने के लिए ऐसे लोगों को तैयार कर पायें, तभी हम इन बच्चों को अच्छे सिटीज़न्ज बना सकेंगे। अगर ऐसा न हुआ, तो बच्चों को इस बिल से कोई लाभ न होगा। मुझे बच्चों से और खास कर उनकी शिक्षा से

बहुत शौक है। जो लोग मान्टेसरी सिस्टम को जानते हैं और बच्चों की साइकालोजी को समझते हैं, उनको मेरी तरह यह जान कर हैरत होगी कि मैंने जो मान्टेसरी स्कूल देखे हैं, जहां अच्छे बच्चे पढ़ते हैं, उनमें टीचर को ज़रा भी पेशेन्स नहीं है, कोई सब्र नहीं है कि बच्चे को समझायें। अगर बच्चा ज्यादा सवाल करता है, तो उस को डांट कर, मार कर बिठा दिया जाता है। यह इस वक्त भी मान्टेसरी स्कूल में हो रही है। जब हमारी एजूकेशन की यह हालत है, तो फिर उन होम्ज की हालत क्या होगी, जहां मामूली बच्चे नहीं, बल्कि ग़ैर-मामूली बच्चे रखे जायेंगे? इसलिए वहां पर औरतों को मुकर्रर करना जरूरी है। मर्दों को भी रखा जाये, लेकिन औरतों को रखना ज्यादा जरूरी है।

जैसा कि डा० अचमम्बा ने कहा है, इस बिल में हर एक चीज के बारे में एक औरत का जिक्र है। मेरे ख्याल में ज्यादा मुनासिब होगा, अगर और औरतों को रखा जाये और रखना पड़ेगा, अगर हम इस काम को आगे बढ़ाना चाहते हैं। वह गाड़ी चल नहीं सकती है, अगर इस काम में औरतों का हाथ ज्यादा न हो।

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय (प्रतापगढ़) : इस में यह कहा गया है कि कम से कम एक हो। ज्यादा भी हो सकती हैं।

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : एक से काम नहीं चल सकता है।

पंडित मुनीश्वर दत्त उपाध्याय : ज्यादा भी हो सकती हैं।

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : बच्चों का भीख के लिए हाथ फैलाना और भिक्षा मांगना बहुत तकलीफ़देह है। जहां तक हो सके, इस को जल्दी बन्द करना चाहिए। जहां तक इस में पुलिस का ताल्लुक है, कुदरती तौर पर हम को पुलिस की वर्दी बुरी लगती है और उस को देख कर हम परेशान हो जाते हैं। यह अच्छा नहीं लगता है कि जो आदमी बच्चों को पकड़े और कचहरी वग़ैरह में ले जाये, वह पुलिस की वर्दी पहने हुए दिखाई दे। वह पुलिस वाला भले ही हो, लेकिन वह सादे कपड़े में हो, तो अच्छा होगा। बच्चों के माइन्ड को डेवेलप करने के लिए, उन को सुधारने के लिए निहायत अच्छी फ़िज़ा की जरूरत है। यह नहीं होना चाहिए कि एक पुलिस वाला घसीट कर उन को कोर्ट में ले जाये। मुझे यकीन है कि मिनिस्टर साहब इस पर ग़ौर करेंगे।

मुझे यह भी यकीन है कि इन होम्ज को खोलने में कोई जल्दबाजी नहीं की जायगी। सोशल वैलफ़ेयर बोर्ड ने आफ़्टर केयर होम खोले हैं। जब तक सरकार के पास मुनासिब आदमी तैयार न हों, इस काम को करने के लिए स्त्रियां तैयार न हों, तब तक इन होम्ज को नहीं खोलना चाहिए, क्योंकि जब तक नींव मजबूत नहीं होगा, जब तक पक्की ईंटों से नींव नहीं डाली जायगी, तब तक मकान ठीक तरह से नहीं बनाया जा सकता है। आजकल तो ऐसा मालूम होता है कि हर एक के पीछे शैतान दौड़ रहा है। इस तरीके से सब काम कर रहे हैं। अगर इस बारे में जल्दी जल्दी काम किया जायगा, तो वह सिर्फ दिखावट होगी, असलियत नहीं होगी। मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से कहूंगी कि इस में दिखावट बिल्कुल न हो, असलियत हो। एजूकेशन में हम को दिखावट की जरूरत नहीं है।

फ़ारेन कन्ट्रीज में जब हम जाते हैं, तो वहां की नर्सरीज को देख कर हैरत में पड़ जाते हैं। बच्चों के साथ वे किस तरह से बातचीत करते हैं, उन को एजूकेशन कैसे दी जाती है, ये लाजवाब चीजें हैं, जो हम को उन से सीखनी चाहिए।

मैं फिर मिनिस्टर साहब को मुबारकबाद देती हूं और मुझे खुशी है कि आज इतने दिन बाद यह चिल्ड्रन्ज बिल आया है और मुझे

[श्रीमती उमा नेहरू]

पूरी उम्मीद है कि सब भाई बहन इस में मदद करेंगे और यह देखेंगे कि इस बिल पर कामयाबी से अमल हो और हर एक ग़रीब और भिखारी बच्चा देश का अच्छा सिटिजन हो और सिटिजन के पूरे राइट्स उस को मिलें ।

श्री यादव नारायण जाधव (मालेगांव) : सभानेत्री जी, जिस बिल पर आज हम चर्चा कर रहे हैं, उस का ताल्लुक एक ऐसे सवाल से है, जिस के बारे में संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ भी चिन्तित है । अभी संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में बाल अपराधियों के बारे में चर्चा होने वाली है और इस सम्बन्ध में एक कांफ्रेंस होने वाली है । हमारे देश में इस समस्या की क्या स्थिति है, हर स्टेट में इस के बारे में क्या अनुभव है और इस को मिटाने के लिए हर स्टेट में जो प्रयोग किये गये हैं, उस के बारे में मान्यवर मंत्री महोदय हमारे सामने कुछ बातें रखेंगे । इतना ही नहीं, जब संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में इस के बारे में चर्चा होगी, तो मैं समझता हूं कि हिन्दुस्तान के कुछ प्रतिनिधि वहां जायेंगे और वहां पर, इस समस्या का यहां क्या स्वरूप है, यह रखने की कोशिश करेंगे, ऐसा मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूं । आज जो बिल सदन के सामने है उसके बारे में, जैसा श्रीमती उमा नेहरू ने कहा, छः सात साल के पहले से इस सदन में चर्चा थी । अभी अभी माननीय मंत्री श्री पंजाब राव देशमख ने मुझ से कहा था कि वे जब आर्डिनरी मेम्बर थे तो उन्होंने ऐसा ही बिल सदन के सामने रखा था, लेकिन उस बिल पर उस वक्त चर्चा नहीं हो सकी । यह बिल सदन के सामने आया है । अब जो इस का स्वरूप है, उसे हमें देखना पड़ेगा । जिन बातों के ऊपर खास जोर दे कर यह बिल रखा गया है अर्थात् अपराधी बालकों के बारे में और जो नेगलेक्टेड चिल्ड्रेन या दुर्लक्षित बच्चे हैं, उन के बारे में, उन के ही सम्बन्ध में इस में चर्चा है । हिन्दुस्तान की जो आज हालत है, जो कि एक अर्द्धविकसित देश है, उस को देखते हुए हमारी जिम्मेदारी और बढ़ जाती है । यह भी मैं जानता हूं कि जो विकसित देश हैं उन के सामने भी यह समस्या है क्योंकि बाल अपराधियों की संख्या उन देशों में भी कम नहीं है । भारत सेवक समाज की तरफ से बाल स्वास्थ्य के ऊपर जो एक साप्ताहिक निकलता है उस के १३ दिसम्बर के अंक में बाल अपराधियों की समस्या के बारे में एक छोटा सा आर्टिकल शाया हुआ है । सारे देश में यह समस्या कैसी है, उस में इस के बारे में लिखा गया है और राष्ट्र संघ इस के बारे में कुछ न कुछ हल ढूंढ निकालेगा ऐसा उस में कहा गया है । लेकिन अभी श्रीमती जयाबेन शाह ने जो कहा मैं उस बात को मानता हूं कि समाज में जो यह समस्या पैदा होती है उस को पैदा न होने देने के लिये हम क्या कर सकते हैं ? उन्होंने यह भी कहा था कि "प्रिवेंशन इज बेटर दैन क्योर" । हिन्दुस्तान में बाल अपराधियों के दूसरे हिस्सों को छोड़ कर हम ने इस में केवल नेगलेक्टेड चिल्ड्रेन को लिया है । किन्तु सब से बड़ा सवाल जो मैं सदन के सामने रखना चाहता हूं वह यह है कि हिन्दुस्तान के जो सर्वसाधारण आदमी हैं, उन की जो आर्थिक हालत है उस को हम देखें । देहात में रहने वाले किसान, शहरों में रहने वाले मजदूर, मिल में काम करने वाले और दफ्तर में काम करने वाले बाबू की आर्थिक हालत ऐसी है कि उसे अपने बच्चों की तरफ देखने का टाइम नहीं मिलता है ।

अभी अध्यक्ष महोदय ने कहा था कि इस बिल पर बोलने के लिये वे इस सदन की महिलाओं को पहले समय देंगे । यह बात मैं मानता हूं कि हमारे देश के बच्चों को सही रास्ते पर ले जाने के लिये ज्यादा से ज्यादा काम हमारी मातायें और बहनें कर सकती हैं । लेकिन आज की सामाजिक हालत में और आर्थिक हालत में क्या हमारे सदन की माताएं कह सकती हैं कि समाज में जो

महिलायें हैं उन्हें अपने बच्चों की तरफ देखने का टाइम मिलता है। इतना ही नहीं आज की मातायें अपने बच्चों को दूध पिलाने का टाइम भी नहीं दे सकती है और न ही इन के स्तनों में दूध है. यह हमारे देश की आर्थिक हालत है। ज्यादा से ज्य दा एक या दो महीने तक मायें बच्चों को अपने स्तन का दूध पिला सकती हैं। उस के बाद उन के स्तनों में दूध नहीं रहता । ऐसी हालत है हमारे देश की औरतों की। जब ऐसी हालत है हमारे देश की औरतों की कि जिन्दा रहने के लिये उन को घर के बाहर काम करना पड़ता है और बच्चों को देखने का समय नहीं मिलता, तब हमारे हिन्दुस्तान में नेगलैक्टड बच्चों की तादाद, जिन की तरफ हम तवज्जह नहीं दे सकते, जिन की देख भाल नहीं कर सकते, कितनी होगी।

अभी एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि दुर्लक्षित बच्चों में भिखारियों के बच्चे भी आयेंगे। समाज में जो भिखारी है वे किस की गलती से हैं? आजाद भारत १३ साल बाद भी हमारे देश की गरीबी को खत्म नहीं कर सका। आप बड़े बड़ शहरों में जायें, तीर्थ क्षेत्रों में जायें, रेलवे स्टेशनों पर जायें, भिखारियों की भीड़ लगी रहती है। कुछ लोगों का धन्धा हो बठा है भीख मांगन का, ऐसा लोग कहते हैं। लेकिन एक टाइम ऐसा आता है जब उन्हें भीख मांगने के अलावा कोई चारा नहीं रहता है। भीख मांगना ही उन का पेशा बन जाता है। समाज में काम नहीं मिलता है। काम करने के लिये आदमी तैयार होता है, लेकिन फिर भी काम नहीं मिलता है। हिन्दुस्तान में हर चीज की कीमत है, लेकिन एक चीज ऐसी है जिस की बाजार में कीमत नहीं है, और वह है आदमी। उन में नौजवान हैं, छोटे बच्चे हैं। वे अपना श्रम बेचने के लिये बाजार में खड़े रहते हैं लेकिन उन के श्रम को लेने के लिये कोई तैयार नहीं है। जब ऐसा समय आ जाता है तो मनुष्य उकता जाता है, काम से नफरत करने लगता है क्योंकि वह काम करने के लिये तैयार है पर काम नहीं मिलता है। ऐसे समाज में रहने वाले जो बच्चे हैं उन की मन की प्रवृत्ति इस लिये और बिगड़ जाती है कि समाज में जो एक दूसरा हिस्सा है जिन के पास जिन्दगी में चैन करने के लिये या जिन्दगी की दूसरी जरूरियात को पूरा करने के लिये पैसा होता है, साज सामान होता है, उन के आराम और चैन को देख कर इन बच्चों के दिल में यह बात आती है कि आखिर हिन्दुस्तान में रहने वाले लोगों में कुछ ऐसे भी हैं जिन को यह सब चीजें नहीं मिलती हैं। एक और इस देश में ऐसे बच्चे है जिन के पास अच्छे अच्छे गरम कपड़े हैं, लेकिन दूसरी ओर ऐसे बच्चे हैं जिन के पास सर्दी से बचने के लिये कपड़े नहीं हैं। जब भी हम रेल में सफर करते हैं तो देखते हैं कि हजारों बच्चे ऐसे हैं जिन के पास कपड़े नहीं हैं। उन के शरीर की तरफ देखें तो उन के बदन पर गर्द होती है, उन के बदन से बू आती है। इस लिये मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि यह बहत बड़ी समस्या है जिस को कि हमें देखना पड़ेगा। इसे हल करने के लिये .....

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member must try to conclude now.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: Madam, five hours have been allotted for this Bill. I think there are not many hon. Members who want to speak on this Bill.

Mr. Chairman: There are 21.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: There are many speakers.

Mr. Chairman: I am giving about 14 to 15 minutes to each hon. Member. I have only rung the bell, the hon. Member can have another two minutes.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: Give me five minutes more.

Mr. Chairman: He can have only two more minutes.

श्री यादव नारायण जाधव : मैं ने यह जो समस्या आप के सामने रक्खी है उस को हल करने के लिये हमारे पास कितने साधन चाहियें, कितनी बड़ी मशीनरी लगेगी, इस की ओर मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । राज्य सभा में जब इस मशीनरी के बारे में सवाल उठाया गया तो माननीय मंत्री ने कहा कि हमारे पास बीस स्कूल्स हैं, संस्थायें हैं, जिन में हम इस समस्या को हल करने के लिये ५०० आदमियों को ट्रेन कर सकते हैं । यह संस्थायें केवल यूनियन टेरिटरीज में ही हैं या पूरे देश में हैं, इस के बारे में उन्होंने साफ साफ कुछ नहीं कहा । मैं उन से कहूंगा कि इस बारे में भी वे अपने जवाब में जरा रोशनी डालें। इस बिल के प्राविजन्स बहुत अच्छे हैं । हमारे राष्ट्रपति जी सदन के सामने जब हर साल तकरीर करते हैं तो हमारी स्टेट्यूट बुक में कौन कौन से नये कानून आये हैं, इसे बतलाने की कोशिश करते हैं । इस साल भी जब उनकी तकरीर होगी तो वह बतायेंगे । उनको खुशी होती है, लेकिन यह जो सोशल लेजिसलेशन होते हैं उनको अमल में लाने के लिए जो अधिकारी लोग होते हैं उनमें एक तरीके की एपेथी होती है, ऐसा मैं कहना चाहता हूं । जो शोशल लेजिसलेशन हमारे यहां पास हुआ है, चाहे वह प्राहिबिशन का हो या दूसरा हो, हम उसे ऐसे नजरिए से देखते हैं कि हमने जो कुछ लेजिसलेशन पास किया है वह अमल में लाया गया है, सकसेसफुल हो गया है । इस तरीके से इन लेजिसलेशन्स की तरफ न देखा जाए यह मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं ।

राज्य सभा में यह पूछा गया कि यह जो बच्चे हैं उनको रिहेबिलिटेट करने के लिए जिन संस्थाओं में उनको पढ़ना पड़ेगा और जहां उनका कैरेक्टर बनेगा, उसके लिए कितना पैसा थर्ड फाइव अर प्लान में रखा गया है, लेकिन इसके बारे में मान्यवर मंत्री महोदय जवाब नहीं दे सके । मैं चाहूंगा कि ये सब बातें संयुक्त राष्ट्र के सामने रखी जाएं, हमारे हिन्दुस्तान की पूरी समस्या, इस बिल को अमल में लाने के लिए पूरी मैशिनरी, और जो कुछ जिम्मेदारी हम ले रहे हैं उसके लिए पैसा और अमल में लाने के लिए जो जिद है वह रखेंगे तो इस सोशल लेजिसलेशन को सदन के सामने रखने का फायदा होगा ऐसा मैं समझता हूं ।

Swami Ramananda Tirtha (Aurangabad): Mr. Chairman, I welcome this measure because it meets the requirements of the society at the present moment. It was long overdue and the Education Minister deserves our congratulations for having introduced this measure in the House. It embraces all the facets of the problem and is quite comprehensive in its implications. As has been stated, this Bill aims to provide for the care, protection, maintenance, welfare, training, education and rehabilitation of neglected or delinquent childern and for the trial of delinquent childern in the Union territories.

When we look at this problem, we have to remember that it cannot be isolated from the overall situation that we find in society today, both economic and social. We have been tied down by certain customs and traditions and certain habits have been implanted in us and also by the economic surroundings that we find ourselves in. I would like to state that though it is move or less a problem of economic improvement, still, with all the limitations of our economic development, we have to apply ourselves from a social and psychological point of view. Therefore, howsoever our efforts may be in regard to the economic uplift of the people—and we all know that there are very many limitations—and howsoever zealous we may be to build up this country economically as quickly as possible, there are certain limitations inherent in the situation, and the progress is bound to be slower than it is expected to be, particularly when we build up the nation through democratic methods. Therefore, this problem, though in its main content an economic one, has to be viewed from all aspects and more so from the social point of view.

There is also another aspect of this problem. The Bill states that this measure is for taking care of the neglected children. Why are the people neglected? The answer to this is two-fold. One is, because of the poverty that exists in the society or family and the parents are confronted by the poverty. The second is, there are certain weaknesses. Why is it that parents neglect the children? It can be very easily said that because the father and the mother have to work for earning their livelihood, they find no time to look after their children.

In this connection, though it may be just a diversion from the main issue, I would like to say that it is the duty of the parents also, particularly now, at this stage of our development when our resources are so limited—the intelligent sections of India are conscious of it—to realise whether we should not put a limit to population. What is the use of giving birth to children who cannot be taken care of? Let us appeal to the social conscience of the people. After all, no State in the world can take care adequately of all children who year by year are being thrown out as delinquents and orphans. That aspect also has to be looked into and a very serious and earnest appeal has to be made to the social conscience of the Indian people. I have never touched on this point any time in this House though there has been much discussion about it, but I take this opportunity of stating that if possible by a moral appeal and if necessary by scientific methods also, the growth of population should be checked, because, it is going to be a drain on our economic resources. Therefore, this legislation, howsoever salutary it may be in its implications, has got its limitations.

Having said this, I come to the actual provisions of this Bill, and particularly I would like to mention sub-clause (4) of clause 21 which runs thus:

> "In determining the special school, or any person to whose custody a child is to be committed or entrusted under this Act, the court shall pay due regard to the religious denomination of the child to ensure that religious instruction contrary to the religious persuation of the child is not imparted to him."

This is very necessary. I have nothing to say against any missionaries. They are free to propagate their own religion, but there should be certain limitations, particularly when the child is young—a minor—and does not know the distinction between one religion and another. Also, when the child is delinquent or neglected, or, for the matter of fact, has committed some crime, that particular situation should not be taken advantage of for instilling into his mind religious sentiments contrary to the persuasions of the child. This provision is very necessary, and I welcome it.

More than this, clause 22 also is there. So, it shows that the Ministry is quite conscious of the problem and therefore it has provided here that though the child has committed a particular crime, the child should not be sent to ordinary prisons or any such shelter-house, but should be placed in particular houses where other type of care should be taken. It is also quite true that the period of the custody, or whatever you may call it, should be limited to the period for which the court may award the punishment. This is also quite a salutary provision.

I now come to two suggestions made by the previous speakers. I entirely agree with Shrimati Uma Nehru that there should be no undue haste about starting these homes or making certain arrangements for care of the delinquent children. When the money is provided, there is a tendency in these days particularly, to try to see that somehow it is spent, without looking to the physical results. Sometimes there is also another tendency that the amounts lapse. Both are there. So, we should take care to see

[Swami Ramananda Tirtha]

that there is no undue haste, because our tragic experience is that such relief homes, people say, are more or less brothels. It is a very sad word, but the helpless young women who are sent to some relief homes for being educated, so that they can take care of themselves in their future life, are somehow relegated to that degrading position of a prostitute. I, therefore, appeal to the Minister to see that proper personnel are trained and in relation to the personnel who are going to take care of the homes, the homes are started. There should be correlation between the personnel and the starting of the homes.

I am one with my sisters here that it would be more helpful or salutary and more effective if just as in education, the entire problem of delinquent children is entrusted to the women of India. But there are limitations in the present situation. Women are more fitted for propagating education amongst the people, but looking to the present situation, I would urge upon the Minister that more and more non-official agencies managed in a major part by women should be entrusted with this task of taking care of these delinquent children, because after all, whatever we may say, men are made of sterner stuff and delinquent children require affection, love and sympathy, which are more in women than in men. There is nothing wrong in admitting this limitation of the male personnel.

I would also plead with the Minister that though the State cannot be left out, I would not say bureaucracy, but the official imprint on this work should be as little as possible.

With these words, I support the Bill.

Dr. Sushila Nayar (Jhansi): Mr. Chairman, I wish to compliment the hon. Education Minister for bringing forward this Bill, which is much needed and which lays down in concrete shape and form certain principles which have been accepted by us and by all civilised countries throughout the world. And that is, that a child that becomes delinquent is not an offender, but is really offended against and is the victim of circumstances.

In normal circumstances, a child that receives sufficient attention and sufficient guidance in his own home does not become delinquent. A child that becomes delinquent does so because of some shortcoming in society, in the environment in which that child has been brought up. Therefore, it is necessary that in the place of the punitive outlook which has been followed in the past, we resort to a different outlook, a correctional outlook, an outlook under which we will make up those deficiencies which resulted in a child becoming a delinquent child.

The delinquent children are produced before a juvenile court. Normally speaking, according to this outlook that I have mentioned, the juvenile court should have any lawyers attached to it. I have seen— and you must have seen it yourself that in certain civilised and progressive countries, no lawyers appear in the juvenile court, for the simple reason that it is not the object to punish the child. The lawyers are there to defend the culprit, but when the court is not there to punish the child, the court is there to understand the difficulties and circumstances and to find solutions, then lawyers become completely unnecessary. I wish we had made that provision in this Bill. As it is not there, I hope by convention, this rule will be followed.

I have had the unpleasant experience of being present in the juvenile court on more than one occassion, where I have seen children being convicted for the offence of smuggling liquor and being mixed up with the nefarious trade and illicit liquor sale

in the city of Bombay. I saw one child. The mother of that child was a very poor woman; she cleaned utensils of somebody and earned just the bare minimum to feed herself and her child. Yet there was a black-coated gentleman, a lawyer, defending that child.

I was rather curious to find out how this lawyer could have been provided with his fees by this poor woman. The lawyer was not appearing free in this case. Then somebody explained to me that it was not the mother who was defending the child but it was the illicit liquor trade that was providing the money for the defence of this child and which had engaged the lawyer. So I could not help remarking to the lawyer, "Look here my friend, do you think you are acting in the best interests of this child?" He just smiled and said, "Madam, I am acting within the law."

This is the attitude in the juvenile courts exhibited by some of our honoured sections of society. It is therefore necessary that we do everything possible to restore to the juvenile courts that atmosphere and status which is really contemplated under the spirit of this Bill. It was in view of the atmosphere prevailing in the juvenile courts today and the stigma that still attaches to a child who has been in a juvenile court that in the Joint Committee and in the Bill as it has emerged from the Rajya Sabha a provision has been made that a neglected child instead of being sent before a court shall be sent before a special board. I congratulate the hon. Minister for having done that because it means that the neglected child at any rate will appear before a Board consisting of certain social workers and educationists, before people who are genuinely interested in the welfare of the child people who will try to help that child in every possible way in a setting to which not even a distant tinge of odium or stigma can possible be attached under any circumstances. I wish we had done the same for both the delinquent and the neglected children. A neglected child is one who has been deprived of certain normal rights which every child should enjoy in a healthy normal society but who has submitted to it. He has not rebelled against that situation. The only difference between the neglected child and the delinquent child is that the delinquent child has a little more spirit that the other fellow and he rebels against the situation in which he has been forced to be and as a result of this rebellion he does things which put him in the category of a delinquent child. Therefore I feel that to make a distinction between the delinquent and the neglected child is not correct because the child who does not submit to this kind of a situation and who rebels against it has a little more initiative and spirit and therefore is potentially perhaps better human material, who can be shaped into a good and a capable citizen given the right circumstances.

I know that the hon. Minister did not wish to make a distinction between these two groups of children and if he could have his way he would have probably treated both of them alike and would have made them appear before the board as happens in Sweden and certain other Scandinavian countries. But in our own society there are people who would turn round and say, "A boy of 15 or 16 can commit murder. Are you going to put that murderer in the same category as a neglected child?" and so on. It was because of this that a distinction was made and the Joint Committee agreed that if we are at least willing to spare the neglected child the agony of appearing in the juvenile court and be faced with the consequences of the stigma attaching to such an appearance, let us do it and save the neglected child from an unpleasant experience and at the same time continue to do our level best to improve the atmosphere of the juvenile courts so that the juvenile courts will not be the type of place to which anybody can attach any stigma and odium.

[Dr. Sushila Nayar]

14.46 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I have seen well-to-do parents take their children to a juvenile court in some of the western countries. The child may have offended against the traffic rules or may have done some little naughty thing which makes the child appear before the juvenile court. But in that juvenile court the judge and the people sitting there are like the parents of the child, like the elders of the child who try to understand the mind of that child. In that fashion they try to help the child.

A short while ago some criticism was offered by hon. Shrimati Renu Chakravartti saying that the probation officers, special schools, homes etc., as provided in the Bill, were dealt with in a casual manner. She wanted clear-out definitions of the functions of probation officers, the type of education that will be given to the children in the special schools etc. I wish to submit that probation officers or probation service is a well recognised service and the duties and the functions of the probation service are clearly defined. There is no ambiguity about it. It is not necessary to have an outline of the qualifications and implications of this type of a service and of the duties of the probation officers in a Bill like this. Similarly, the special schools and the certified schools are also a fairly well recognised entity and their functions are well-known. I however agree entirely that the hon. Education Minister should make a special effort to see that people who are going to run these services, whether homes, certified schools or probation services, are very carefully selected and are given very good and very careful training because the success of the whole scheme will depend upon the human material and the calibre of the men and women who man these services.

The same thing applies to the after-care organisation. Let us not forget that if we deal with the children properly, not only are we rendering a service to humanity and a service to these children but we are rendering a service to ourselves. If we do not take these children out of the morass in which society has thrown them, they may grow up into criminals and become a threat to society till the end of their days and Society will have to spend much more on dealing with those criminals than it will spend now to deal with these children in a proper and humane manner, in the correctional spirit and in the spirit of service.

I am glad too that certification of children's institutions is recognised under this Bill. I hope there will be adequate inspection and supervision of the institutions that are to be recognised and certified for this purpose. With these words I give my wholehearted support to this Bill. I again compliment the hon. Education Minister for bringing it before the House.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I do not think there is any opinion in this whole House against this Bill. It is a Children's Bill, a Bill to take care of and protect children. There can be no two opinions. At least I welcome this Bill warmly.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If it is children's day, it is mothers' turn to speak.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Fathers also are responsible.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mothers have a prior right for custody of children.

Shri D. C. Sharma: All right, Sir.

Shri Kalika Singh (Azamgarh): But, they will never declare a child as delinquent.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: There would not be any need to declare a child as delinquent if there is a home to look after it. It is the mother that makes a happy child.

I would like to mention some aspects. There has been a lot said about this Bill. There are no two opinions. I congratulate the Select Committee and welcome the Bill as it has emerged from it, particularly the new clause 4 and the new clause 6. Because, in the new clause 4, you have separated the two kinds of children, those who are delinquent and those who are neglected. The neglected will come before the Child Welfare Board and the delinquent will have to be tried because they have committed an offence. What the source of the offence is and why they have committed the offence, it will be for the Administrators and Probation officers to trace afterwards, so that that condition can be corrected. The new clause 6 also stresses the point that the persons appointed to the Child Welfare Boards and Children's courts should possess special knowledge of child psychology.

In fact, the whole working of this scheme will depend on how you man the various schemes and it is the the personnel that would be the real live force in this whole scheme that you are trying to work. I should think that the first and foremost thing that should be taken in hand at once is the training of the various cadres of people at various levels so that they can carry on this work in the right spirit and with a certain amount of speed, although my esteemed friend Shrimati Uma Nehru said that we should not be in a hurry. I agree with that. At the same time, do not let us leave it and just let this Act remain an Act. What I should say is: First, high level Administrative officers to co-ordinate child welfare services in health, education or Administrative heads of units of Child welfare in the department of social welfare when these are created. These are the categories to be trained. Secondly: orientation of existing district level workers such as Block development officers and Mukhya sevikas; specific needs of children to be included in their normal training programme. The Mukhya sevikas in the villages could do a lot regarding this. When we talk of delinquent children; we seem to talk of towns. There are many delinquent children and neglected children in the rural areas to which the Mukhya sevikas and gram sevikas will have access. Thirdly: training of a new cadre of full-time field level workers called Bal sevikas with full training in Balwadis and teachers with basic knowledge of health and nutrition and how to set up the necessary service activities for children at the field level. In all these services, I also fully support that there should be women, because women are moulded by nature for this work. Wherever there is need for police, let them utilise the women police if they are to be utilised at all for any good purpose. At the moment, I find, what the women police do is to manhandle women. That is all they do. They manhandle women. It is only in meetings that they are sent just to harass women more or less. I feel very sorry about it. I think women police must come wherever there is any occasion to take up a child.

We must have a large cadre of people. The main thing about this kind of Bills is that we cannot deal with homes with a number of children. We must have small units of Probation officers and people who take care of them so that there are not too many in a home. Each individual case is different and they need to be treated individually. Just to send him to a large home will not correct the delinquent child; nor will it give him that education or outlook that is primarily necessary to make him a useful citizen.

One Member opposite said,—Shri P. K. Deo, I think—that the Government should give assistance when people want to adopt a child. I think this is a very strange outlook. We in India have been taught to look at children as the gift of God. If we have not been so blessed, it should be our privilege to adopt a child. Let not the Government come into this

[Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri]

to give assistance to adopt a child. Because, this could easily be exploited by the person who wants to adopt. By adopting a child, he could get assistance from the Government and he also gets child labour from that child. I oppose this suggestion very strongly.

I would like to say that, when we are thinking of the Children's Bill, let it be as sympathetic as possible. There are certain terms included in this Bill which are rather uncalled for and unnecessary. Let a child who is suffering from leprosy be called a leprosy patient. Let the place to which the child is being sent be called a hospital for chronic diseases. Let a child of unsound mind be called a child of retarded mental capacity. This terminology, I think, does affect the whole outlook, because, when we are wanting to deal with children an outlook of sympathy, is necessary and all these things should be eliminated.

Last but not least, illegitimacy is a term which should be abolished from this Bill. Who are illegitimate children? Sir, I claim, there are only illegitimate parents. There are no illegitimate children. Our Sastras do not offer any term for illegitimate children. There are only various kinds of "putras" and they are all "santans". They are all putras and santans. No stigma attaches to them according to the Hindu religion and Hindu Nyaya Sastras. It is only whenever we can serve children in any way that we really reach the very heart of all the teaching that has come down to us through the Sastras.

Also there are one or two things that I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister. For instance, it is said that the Administration will take note of the administration of dangerous drugs in public. Is the administration of dangerous drugs in private admitted? How are you going to control it unless you have small units, small areas, where Probation officers or Gram sevikas or whatever it is, could go into selected homes and always have under their purview and care the children so that they can take care of anything that happens whether in private or public. I think that aspect must be looked into.

Otherwise, it is a very good Bill and I congratulate the Minister that at least after 13 years, we have brought forward a Bill to look after the future of India, because the children form the very core of our being. They have a right to the very best that any State can do for them. Whatever our worship may be, I think this is part of the worship that would reach Bal Gopal. That has been the tradition. Whatever we may be able to do for the children in this land will be like the ancient sloka:

आकाशात् पतितं तोयं, यदा गच्छति सागरम्,
सर्वे देव नमस्कार, श्री केशवम् प्रतिगच्छति ।

15 hrs.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I find much has been said, but still there are a large number of hon. Members who want to speak. Therefore, I would request hon. Members to condense their remarks within ten minutes.

Shrimati Manjula Devi. Mothers are in a hurry too.

Shrimati Manjula Devi (Goalpara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, whenever I come across children begging in the streets and railway stations, hungry, half-naked, dirty and neglected, I hang my head in shame for the mockery of independence that is ours. I ask myself: is this independence, when our children have to beg in the streets? I am gripped with sickening pain whenever such a sight meets my eyes. So, I had resolved to bring a Bill to put a stop to this way of life of children. Then I was told that the Government intended to bring in a Bill of this type. I was very happy to know about it. I thank the Government for bringing forward this Bill. There has been a long-felt need for

this. Legislation only paves the way, it is the social consciousness of the people that can implement the principles of this Bill.

Children are the pillars of society, and the structure of future India should be strong and sound. They are also the flowers of society who should be beautiful, healthy, fresh, clean and mentally and physically looked after. I am sorry our children are lacking in all this.

I am glad this is a comprehensive Bill. All aspects are dealt with. I am also very glad that there is a certain distinction between neglected and delinquent children. The neglected child is a normal child, whereas the delinquent child is an abnormal child. It is not healthy for the normal child or the neglected child to mix up with the abnormal children. They should be protected from the delinquent children and guarded from the evils of delinquency. So, the delinquent children have to be segregated.

I am glad that there are two categories of treatment for these two types of children. The Children's Welfare Board deals with the neglected children, whereas the Children's Court deals with the delinquent children. I also feel that there should be separate institutions like children's homes, special schools, observation homes and after-care institutions for girls. The nature of girls is different from that of the boys, and it is much better and advisable that there should be separate institutions for girls and boys.

The majority of the competent authorities and personnel of the institutions should be women. There is a sub-clause here in Chapter II which says, "of whom not less than one shall be a women". I would like to change it to read that the majority should be women because it is women who understand the psychology of the child.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman (Kumbakonam): May I point out that women magistrates are much more severe than men magistrates?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is what is wanted perhaps.

Shrimati Manjula Devi: I do not want all of them to be women. I said the majority should be women. There are chances of men also being severe.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They want in the first instance to be in majority, and when they are in majority perhaps they would turn out the minority!

Shrimati Manjula Devi: I want the police officers in charge of the children's cases to be special police officers, preferably and desirably women. They should be women because they would know how to deal with children and their cases. They should also be trained in the social sciences so that they know how to deal with delinquent and neglected children. Their rank should be that of an Additional Superintendent of Police, so that only high officers would be in charge. The present police are rather unfit to deal with these cases. We hear cases of atrocities. Mentally the present police are not fit to take up such cases. So, I request the Minister to consider this point and see that the special police officers are social workers and women.

Girls, both neglected and delinquent, should be escorted by women whenever they are taken from the house to the court or the Children's Welfare Board, unless the officers themselves are women.

All institutes should have compulsory medical care. I am glad there is going to be medical care, but it should be compulsory. There should be also facilities for technical education in all these institutions, as well as provision for hobbies because hobbies take the mental strain from the child and brings its attitude towards normalcy.

[Shrimati Manjula Devi]

The neglected children have a children's home, but there should also be scope for their adoption. There should be foster parents. In England childless persons and even persons with families adopt children from these institutions, but in India it is rather difficult with economic pressure etc., that large families can adopt such children. But there are a number of childless parents who can adopt these children, and they can give the natural environment of a home to these children. So, this should also be taken into consideration.

The delinquent children have, of course, special homes, observation homes and after-care institutes, but they should be separate from the institutions meant for neglected children. There is no clear demarcation in the Bill that they would be separate.

Voluntary social organisations and welfare activities should play an important role in the administration of these children's institutions. Their experience and knowledge are of great value, and the administrator should take this into consideration. There should be special training centres to train the competent authorities and personnel of these institution in child psychology. There should be a separate administrative set-up which should be absolutely free from politics. The training centres should be set up simultaneously with the establishment of the children's courts and the Child Welfare Boards. Otherwise, it would be quite useless to run these institutions without the trained personnel. It becomes meaningless and waste of money.

Of course, in the rural areas the delinquent children are fewer in number than in the urban areas, and the neglected children are almost nil.

There are delinquent children in the rural areas too, and there should be some rural courts for these rural children, because the transportation of these children to urban areas gives them a panicky feeling, a feeling of uncertainty which will hamper the process of treatment. The panchayats and development blocks can help us in the matter.

There should be stricter measures for dealing with the employment of children as exhibits or the exploitation of children or inflicting cruelty on them. The giving of intoxicating drugs and liquors should also be prohibited. It has been mentioned in the Bill that these drugs should not be given only in public places, but I would like to add the words 'or otherwise' after the word 'public places'. In any case, the very act itself is a crime.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should conclude now. If everything is said by the hon. lady Member, then what would the others say? What would be left for others to say?

Shrimati Manjula Devi: I shall have something for others too. As regards the appointment of the officers, Government should give their deep consideration to this matter, and I hope they will take great care in regard to this matter.

One very important thing that I would like to mention is with regard to the guidance to parents. I would like to say that the parents are more or less responsible for the delinquent child and the neglected child. Therefore, there should be a guidance bureau for the parents. That is very essential. Social workers should help to work these guidance bureaux for the parents.

There should be priorities in the Five Year Plan for child welfare boards, children's boards, children's homes, special schools, observation homes, after-care institutes etc.

I am glad that this Bill is going to be put into effect in the Union Territories, but I hope that there will be a uniform law throughout the country, and the States will also be approached

to make a uniform law in their territories.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Kodiyan, I think every one of the hon. Members who want to speak shall have a chance; only, they have to wait. But, for gentlemen Members, the time-limit allowed will be only ten minutes.

An Hon. Member: Why? No other lady Member is there to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Constitution provides that some provision can be made for ladies to give them protection.

Shri Kodiyan: (Quilon—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I welcome this measure. Many of the important points have already been dealt with by the previous speakers, and, therefore, I do not intend to deal with them any further. Yet, I feel that the most important aspect of this piece of legislation has not been given due regard. The most important aspect, according to me, is the rehabilitation of the children who come from the children's homes and special schools, rehabilitation not in the sense that these children should be given some employment but in the sense that they should come back to the society and take their rightful place as partners in the community or society, or, in other words, that the society should absorb them. Clauce 12 has already provided for after-care organisations, but I feel that the rehabilitation aspect has been kept rather vague.

The main difficulty in rehabilitating these children is, I think, the stigma that always attaches to those persons who come from these schools and special homes. If the after-care organisations contemplated in this Bill are to be run just like the after-care organisations and after-care homes run by the Jail Department, I think the whole object of the Bill will be defeated, because, the after-care homes run by the Jail Department are places where people are kept in isolation from society. If the children who come from the special schools and children's homes are to be kept in the after-care organisations in isolation from society or rather in segregation, then the stigma that attaches to them will continue to remain. In order to remove that stigma, there must be ample opportunity for these people to mix with the society; so that they themselves should feel that they are part of the society, and the society should also realise that even though these children, for no fault of their own, had committed some kinds of offences, they have reformed and they have become useful citizens who can take their rightful place in society.

Therefore, I would suggest that under the after-care organisations, there should be some industrial undertakings. But these industrial undertakings should not be solely kept for these children. The public should also take part in the activities of these undertakings. Then only, the feeling of oneness will develop. If a child has reformed and he gives sufficient proof that he will behave like a decent citizen in the future, even before he leaves the children's home or the special school, if there are opportunities for gainful employment for him in public undertakings or even other undertakings, then, of course, it must be the duty of the competent authority to recommend him for such employment.

Another important aspect is the need to train proper personnel for running the various institutions. Many hon. Members have already dealt with this aspect of the problem. I would only request the hon. Minister to enlighten the House as to what special efforts Government contemplate in order to meet the requirements of adequately trained personnel to run these institutions.

Another point that I would like to bring to the notice of the House is that by undertaking this legislation, Government are taking a heavy responsibility on their shoulders, because, for maintaining these institutions like the

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children's homes, special schools, observation homes and so on, heavy expenditure will have to be incurred. Unless Government provide sufficient funds for this purpose, the whole object of this Bill will be defeated. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to see that sufficient financial provision is made for implementing this Bill.

The hon. Minister, while commending this Bill, has rightly pointed out that the idea is not to punish the children who have committed offences. It is a welcome idea. But I find that the proviso to clause 22 reads:

> "Provided that where a child who has attained the age of fourteen years has committed an offence and the children's court is satisfied that the offence committed is of so serious a nature or that his conduct and behaviour have been such that it would not be in his interest or in the interest of other children in a special school to send him to such special school and that none of the other measures provided under this Act is suitable or sufficient, the children's court may order the delinquent child to be kept in safe custody in such place and manner as it thinks fit and shall report the case for the orders of the Administrator".

What the hon. Minister has said while commending this Bill is that the idea is not to provide punishment for the children. But here it is stated that a child that has committed an offence of a serious nature is to be kept in safe custody. Safe custody of whom? And for what period? That is not clearly stated in this proviso.

Not only in this clause but in many other clauses also you find that the competent authority has been given overriding powers. Therefore, I feel that there must be some non-official body to advise the competent authority in this respect. I would suggest that a special advisory body should be constituted in each place to advise the competent authority. Similarly, there should be non-official visitors to supervise and report on the children's homes and special schools. As has already been pointed out by one hon. Member, the official print in implementing this legislation, which is necessarily a piece of social legislation, should be as little as possible and participation of non-official organisations and non-official bodies should become part of this legislation. Under the rule-making powers, when rules are framed, these suggestions should also be taken into consideration and provision made for constituting advisory bodies and also appointing visitors to children's homes and special schools.

Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay: This is one of the most welcome measures that has been brought before this Parliament and I congratulate the Minister on the provisions made for care, protection, maintenance, training, education and rehabilitation of children and also for having a separate procedure and separate court for their trial. The subject-matter of this Bill is really the most important element of our nation. I should think that it is the greatest asset of our nation. It is really the future of our nation. They are really the hope of our nation. So when we are going to legislate with respect to them, we have to be very particular to deal with them suitably. In this view, I find that the provisions made in the Bill are really excellent so far as they go.

As regards implementation, that difficulty is, of course, there. I shall deal with it a little later. But now I would like to point out that the Bill itself has become a bit cumbersome. The provisions are sometimes overlapping, and there is a series of separate institutions to deal with different aspects of the problem separately.

In this connection, I would like to make a suggestion. As a number of hon. Members have said here, there should not be a court atmosphere when dealing with cases of delinquent children. In order to avoid that atmosphere, I think it may be enough that the Board may deal with these cases also. Provision has been made in the Bill to the effect that the members of the Boards shall have magisterial powers also. They shall form a Bench of Magistrates. In that case, they can very well deal with offences committed by children. Thereby the atmosphere which has to be avoided, according to the suggestion of hon. Members, can also be avoided; also multiplicity of institutions can, to a certain extent, be prevented.

This Bill is confined to Union Territories only. If it is extended to all the States, there will have to be a very huge organisation in the whole country. As a matter of fact, it requires a very large number of trained workers, trained not only in training schools and training colleges, but men with that temperament and psychology with which they can well deal with this kind of children, whether they be neglected children or delinquent children. This is not an easy task. It requires a huge amount of money also. Then the handling of this material has to be very delicate and careful. The task is really very arduous and difficult. It requires a very large organisation too. In what manner it shall be implemented successfully has to be looked into.

As I said, in this Bill there are a number of institutions evisaged. The Child Welfare Boards are there, children's courts are there, children's homes are there, special schools are there, observation homes are also there as also after-care organisations. Then there is the Administrator at the head of all these institutions. We have also the probation officer. Then there is some non-official machinery also to be there with fit persons to take charge of children where institutions are wanting.

If this organisation is spread over the whole country, the implementation of the scheme, as has been said by hon. Members here, would be rather difficult. The object of all these homes and schools and other institutions is to see that these children are helped to build character and ability, are trained and enabled to protect themselves from moral danger and exploitation. As they go, the objects are very laudable. If they are achieved, it will be an ideal achievement. But this makes the task a little more difficult. The management of these homes and institutions also becomes very difficult. We find that in big colleges and Universities we have not been able to do anything or if at all very little, on these lines. I do not know how we shall be able to do the same in respect of these delinquent and neglected children when children who are very well brought up by their parents have not been amenable to the reform we are contemplating. I think the agency we require in this respect should be of a very high moral standard. Ordinary agencies will not be of much help.

Then there is the question of after-care agencies or organisations. I think the idea was misunderstood by the hon. Member who said that they shall be kept secbided and apart. The object of these after-care organisations will be to try to put these children who are grown up in life in some useful job. They shall be given some work; they shall be provided with some business so that they may be put on a good career. That is, I think, the most important arrangement.

As I just now submitteed, arrangement has also to be made, in case institutions are not there, to make use of foster homes. If these children are given over to private persons who are considered fit according to the administrators and the rules framed, and who are fit to take charge of these children it may be good. But, sometimes, in such cases these children may be exploited and misused. They may be used as menial servants. So,

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the chances of these children being trained and prepared for life suitably would be rather difficult in the hands of the private persons. May be there might be some good families. It has been said that if they are kept in families it would be much better. There is no doubt about that. But the chances are that they may be exploited also. Therefore, I do not think that they should be generally given over to families. Especially, in the case of girls, I would request the hon. Minister to see that girls are not placed in private families. They should be kept in properly managed Homes. Even the children of persons of bad character who had been leading a bad life and who had been leading immoral lives are not safe in the custody of their parents, as some arrangement has been made in this Bill it is very welcome.

Sometimes, even the own mother of the child is not the proper guardian. There also action may be necessary.

Suggestion has been made that some more women may be employed in these institutions. There is no doubt that it is a welcome idea but that women alone should be employed is not necessary. Quite a large number of men could also be suitably employed. If preference is to be given to women I have no objection.

The hon. Minister said that though there were difficulties, still some step was to be taken, to start with. I think it is a good idea. An objection that was raised by some of my hon. friends is that the Code of Criminal Procedure is being employed for these cases. I think it is a wrong idea. So far as the delinquent children are concerned, in the court the Criminal Procedure Code is not being acted upon. As a matter of fact, there is a different procedure laid down and the rules shall also provide the procedure to be followed by the competent authority in holding enquiries under this Act. They shall be made separately under the provisions of clause 59 of this Bill. Therefore, there should be no fear on that account.

Another objection is that grown-up boys and girls are being kept in the same Homes. I think there should be a separate provision for that. It is not proper that they should be kept together.

So far as the provisions of this Bill are concerned, of course, great advance has been made over the enactments of Bombay and other States and the enactments which we find in respect of other countries. Still I submit its implementation is a difficult task. That is the main thing to be looked into. There are economic conditions which really stand in the way; then, there is want of proper personnel. Another difficulty is the standard of psychological knowledge and morality of the people who are to be employed and also the huge organisation that we shall require to work this out and the huge funds that we need. The management of these Homes and all these things will come in the way of implementation.

Lastly, I would submit one point. I do not know how far it will be possible to make arrangement for it. The definition of beggars as given in this Bill probably includes sadhus and mahants and others whose profession is to beg and also Sarvodaya workers who are working there accepting alms from people. There should be some provision by which they could be exempted from the mischief of this Bill. There might be some difficulty in respect of such children who live upon these aims. Otherwise, they might also be entangled and it may become difficult to get them out of the clutches of the law.

Only one more point and I finish. There is the question of joint trial. It

is very difficult to separate the trial of the child and the adult who commit the offence together. There might be some legal difficulty. If the adult is convicted and if he is sentenced to say 5 years' imprisonment and the judgment is sent to the court where the child is being tried, there might be some difficulty for the court. There should be some specific provision as to what attitude the court should adopted in respect of judgments when one of the actors in that transaction is sentenced and the other is a child and he is being tried separately.

श्रीमती शकुन्तला देवी (बांका) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, शिक्षा मंत्री महोदय ने यह जो चिल्ड्रेंस बिल इस हाउस में पेश किया है उस के लिए मुझे बहुत खुशी है और मैं उसका हृदय से स्वागत करती हूं । वे इसके लिए हमारी बधाई के पात्र हैं । इस बिल से हमारे बच्चों की अवश्य भलाई होगी क्योंकि अभी भी हम अपने देश में बहुत बच्चे ऐसे देखते हैं जो कि अनाथ हैं और सड़कों पर इधर-उधर भीख मांगते फिरते हैं । उन बच्चों के लिए कोई ऐसा स्कूल या होम्स नहीं हैं जहां कि उनकी देख भाल की जा सके और उनको शिक्षित किया जा सके ।

रेलवे स्टेशनों पर देखा जाता है कि हजारों बच्चे भीख मांगते फिरते हैं । उन के मां, बाप होते हुए भी वे भीख मांगते हैं और हकीकत यह है कि उनके मां, बाप अपने उन बच्चों से भीख मंगवाते हैं क्योंकि भीख मांगना यह उनका एक पेशा हो गया है और लोगों के मना करने पर भी वे भीख मांगना नहीं छोड़ते और कहते हैं कि काम करके कमाने की क्या जरूरत है जब कि हमको इसी तरह भीख मांगने से आमदनी हो जाती है और हमारा गुजर बसर हो जाता है । इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि ऐसे बच्चों के लिए जल्दी से जल्दी इस ऐक्ट को लागू करें और उनकी भलाई के लिए इंस्टीट्यूट्स खोलें और उचित शिक्षा का बन्दोबस्त करें । नेगलेक्टेड बच्चों की पढ़ाई के वास्ते और उनको ठीक तरह से देखभाल करने के वास्ते ट्रेंड महिला टीचर्स रक्खी जायें ताकि उन बच्चों को उचित शिक्षण दिया जा सके और शिक्षा देने के साथ ही साथ उन बच्चों को टेकनिकल ट्रेनिंग भी दिलवाई जाय ताकि वे उपयोगी नागरिक सिद्ध हो सकें और भली भांति अपना जीवन यापन कर सकें क्योंकि आगे चलकर उनके सामने रोजगार की समस्या खड़ी हो जायगी ।

दूसरी बात यह है कि आजकल बहुत सी पढ़ी लिखी महिलाओं के बच्चे की भी ठीक से देखभाल नहीं हो पाती .....

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी तक माननीय सदस्या की आवाज रिपोर्टरों तक नहीं पहुंच सकी है इसलिए वह या तो जरा आगे को बढ़ आयें या फिर जरा जोर से बोलें ।

श्रीमती शकुन्तला देवी : इस का कारण यह है कि हमारी स्त्रियों में उचित शिक्षा की आम तौर से कमी है । इसलिये मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगी कि सब से पहले वे एक अमेंडिंग बिल लायें जिस से पहले महिलायें एक अच्छी मां तथा सदाचारिणी गृहणी बनें । औरतों को लड़कों का पालन करने की शिक्षा दी जाय, क्योंकि आज कल कालेज में लड़के और लड़कियां पढ़ने जाती हैं परन्तु उन को यह शिक्षा नहीं दी जाती है कि बच्चों को किस तरह से पाला जाय और और किस तरह से रक्खा जाय । इस का नतीजा यह होता है कि जब उन के बच्चे होते हैं तो वे उन को दाइयां और आयाओं को दे देती हैं और खुद उन पर ध्यान नहीं देती हैं । और वे बच्चे अच्छी तरह से नहीं रक्खे जाते । इस तरह की बात अधिकतर देहातों में ही होती है क्योंकि बेचारा किसान दिन भर अपने खेतों में काम करता है और उस के पास अपने बच्चों के पालने के लिये समय नहीं रहता है । न वहां पर उस के बच्चों के पढ़ने के लिये न अच्छे स्कूल हैं और न उन के खेलने के लिये चिल्ड्रेन्स पार्क हैं, जिस के

[श्रीमती शकुन्तला देवी]

कारण उन की मनोवृत्ति गन्दे-गन्दे लड़कों के साथ खेलने की हो जाती है और उनकी आदत खराब हो जाती हैं। आगे चल कर वही लड़के चोर और डाकू बन जाते हैं। इसलिए शिक्षा मंत्री महोदय से मैं कहना चाहती हूं कि शहरों से पहले देहातों में वे इस तरह के इंस्टिट्यूट्स खोलें जिन में किसानों के बच्चों को शिक्षा दी जाय क्योंकि अभी तक जितने अच्छे से अच्छे स्कूल हैं वे शहरों में ही हैं, देहातों में नहीं हैं, और यही कारण है कि देहातों के बच्चे पढ़ नहीं पाते हैं।

वेलफेअर बोर्ड जो रक्खे गये हैं उन में ज्यादा से ज्यादा महिलाओं को रक्खा जाय क्योंकि महिलायें इस चीज को ज्यादा अच्छी तरह समझ सकती हैं और ज्यादा अच्छी तरह से काम कर सकती हैं। हिन्दुस्तान में सोशल वेलफेअर बोर्ड है, उस में चिल्ड्रेन वेलफेअर स्कीम हैं जिन को बालबाड़ी कहते हैं, उन बालबाड़ियों में उन शिक्षिकाओं को रक्खा जाता है जो मिड्ल पास की ट्रेनिंग करती हैं जो उन को अच्छी तरह ट्रेनिंग नहीं दे सकती हैं। उन को वेतन कम मिलता है। वे इस काम को अच्छी तरह से नहीं कर सकती हैं क्योंकि उन की ट्रेनिंग अच्छी नहीं होती है। इसलिये मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगी कि इन इन्स्टिट्यूट्स में अच्छी से अच्छी ट्रेन्ड टीचर्स रक्खी जायें।

श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री (गुड़गांव) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, संघ शासित प्रदेशों के बच्चों की अपराधी वृत्ति पर रोक लगाने के लिये जो यह विधेयक सदन में उपस्थित किया गया है, मैं उस का स्वागत करता हूं। जिन बच्चों में अपराधी प्रवृत्ति जागृत होती है उन में से कुछ इस प्रकार के हैं जिन के सिर पर से बचपन में ही माता पिता का साया उठ जाता है, कुछ बच्चा उन में इस प्रकार के हैं जो ऐसी बुरी सोसायटियों में फंस जाते हैं कि जिन में आगे चल कर उन में अपराधी प्रवृत्ति जागृत होती है। कुछ ऐसे भी बच्चे देखे गये हैं जो सौतेली माता आदि के व्यवहार से इस प्रकार उपेक्षित हो जाते हैं कि फिर आगे चल कर उन को अपराध करने के लिये विवश होना पड़ता है। परन्तु केवल इतना ही नहीं मैं यह बतलाना चाहता हूं कि जो बच्चे उपेक्षित हैं उन के अन्दर ही अपराधी प्रवृत्ति जागृत हो रही है ऐसा नहीं है, अपितु सच तो यह है कि जो उपेक्षित बच्चे हैं उन के अन्दर भी अपराधी प्रवृत्ति धीरे धीरे जागृत होती चली जा रही है। माता पिता इस बात के लिये प्रयत्नशील हैं कि किसी प्रकार उन के बच्चे सद्गुण और सद्व्यवहार सीखें परन्तु सोसायटी और वातावरण इस प्रकार का है कि वे इस में सफल नहीं हो पाते। इसलिये मेरा सब से पहला निवेदन इस विधेयक के सम्बन्ध में विचार करने से पूर्व, शिक्षा मंत्री से, यह है जैसा कि कल ही आचार्य विनोबा भावे ने वाराणसी के अन्दर सुझाव दिया है, और वह सुझाव बहुत व्यावहारिक है, कि जिस प्रकार से हमारे देश में और बहुत से दल या संघ बन रहे हैं उसी प्रकार से अगर एक अभिभावक संघ बनाया जाय, माता पिता इस प्रकार का अपना संगठन बनायें जो अपनी ओर से समस्याओं के सम्बन्ध में थोड़ा व्यावहारिक दृष्टि से विचार करे और वे लोग आपस में बैठ कर बच्चों के सम्बन्ध में कोई मार्ग निकालें तो बड़ा उपयुक्त होगा।

दूसरी बात जो मैं विशेष रूप से शिक्षा मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूं वह यह है कि प्रायः यह देखा गया है कि स्वतंत्र होने के पश्चात् बालकों के सम्बन्ध में जितनी भी पुस्तकें प्रकाशित हो रही हैं, उन पुस्तकों के अन्दर भौगोलिक बातें पर्याप्त मात्रा में होती हैं, वैज्ञानिक बातें पर्याप्त मात्रा में रहती हैं, एतिहासिक बातें भी पर्याप्त मात्रा में रहती हैं, परन्तु नैतिक और धार्मिक विचारों को प्रोत्साहन देने वाली चर्चायें, जिन में छोटे

छोटे बच्चों को सिखलाया जाता था कि चोरी नहीं करनी चाहिये, झूठ नहीं बोलना चाहिये, उन का माता पिता और गुरुओं के प्रति क्या व्यवहार होना चाहिये, धीरे-धीरे लुप्त होती जा रही है । उन पुस्तकों में इतना जरूर मिलेगा कि भारत का मान चित्र कितना है, काश्मीर कहां पर है, किस देश की किस प्रकार की स्थिति है, कौन सी जाति विशेष रूप से कहां पर रहती है । इसलिये मैं चाहूंगा कि अपराधी प्रवृत्तियों पर रोक लगाते समय जहां और बातों पर विचार किया जा रहा है वहां शिक्षा मंत्रालय की ओर से इस बात के ऊपर अवश्य विचार किया जाना चाहिये कि छोटे बच्चों की जो पुस्तकें प्रकाशित की जा रही हैं उन में नतिकता को प्रोत्साहन देने वाली बातों का जोकि बच्चों के व्यवहार के निर्माण में सहायक होती हैं, अवश्य समावेश किया जाय ।

तीसरी बात जो मैं इस विधेयक के संबंध में विशेष रूप से रखना चाहता हूं वह यह है कि जहां तक मेरी अपनी जानकारी है, इस प्रकार के विधेयक भारत के कुछ दूसरे प्रान्तों में भी हैं, लेकिन सारे प्रान्तों में इस प्रकार के विधेयक नहीं हैं । यह विधेयक उन विधेयकों की पृष्ठ भूमि के आधार पर तैयार किया गया है और उन विधेयकों में अपराधी प्रवृत्तियों पर रोक लगाने की बातों में जो त्रुटियां हैं उन को इस में से हटाने का प्रयास किया गया है । यदि इस में कोई वैधानिक आपत्ति न हो और इस विधेयक को सम्पूर्ण भारत में प्रचलित किया जाता तो अच्छा होता । जिन प्रान्तों के पास अपराधी प्रवृत्तियों को रोकने के लिये अपने विधेयक हैं, सम्भव है उन के लिये इस की आवश्यकता न हो, लेकिन जिन प्रान्तों में इस प्रकार के विधेयक नहीं हैं, यदि उन पर यह विधेयक लागू किया जाय किसी प्रकार, तो मेरा अपना विश्वास है शिक्षा मंत्रालय की ओर से यह देश की भलाई के लिये बड़ा भारी काय होगा ।

चौथी चीज जो मैं इस विधेयक के संबंध में कहना चाहता हूं वह यह कि इस में दो प्रकार की व्यवस्थायें की गई हैं । एक तो चिल्ड्रेन्स कोर्ट की और दूसरी वेलफेअर बोर्ड की । लेकिन चिल्ड्रेन्स कोर्ट और वेलफेअर बोर्ड के जो अधिकार हैं वें लगभग बराबर बराबर हैं । मेरी माननीय बहन श्रीमती जयाबेन शाह ने अपने भाषण में एक बात कही थी कि "कोर्ट" शब्द ऐसा है कि जो बालकों के न्यायालयों हैं उन में चाहे जितनी सरलतापूर्वक और सुविधापूर्वक बालक रक्खे जायें लेकिन इस शब्द के पीछे जो भावना लग गई है वह माताओं पिताओं और बच्चों के मस्तिष्क के लिये एक बहुत भारी चीज हो जायेगी । मेरा अपना विचार इस प्रकार का है कि जो यह वेलफेअर बोर्ड है अगर उसके अधिकार बढ़ा दिये जायें और इस के लिये कोई अलग कोर्ट न बनाये जायें, एक ही वेलफेअर बोर्ड बनाया जाये, तो यह कहीं अधिक सुविधा-जनक होगा । जैसा अभी श्री उपाध्याय ने कहा कि जो इन अधिकारियों का चुनाव हो वह केवल उन की परीक्षा सम्बन्धी योग्यता के आधार पर नहीं होना चाहिये अपितु जो वेलफेअर बोर्ड के अधिकारी हैं उन के लिये यह देखा जाय कि उनकी पिछली सामाजिक सेवाओं का इतिहास क्या है और जिन व्यक्तियों को इस प्रकार के कार्यों में रुचि हो, उनको यह कार्य सौंपा जाय तो इस प्रकार के वेलफेअर बोर्ड अधिक हितकर सिद्ध हो सकेंगे । मैं इस कथन से भी सहमति व्यक्त करूंगा कि इस प्रकार के बोर्डों में, जो कि बच्चों की अपराधी प्रवत्ति पर रोक लगाने के लिये बनाये जायें, अगर उन में महिलाओं के लिये ज्यादा स्थान रहे तो अधिक उपयुक्त होगा । हमारे यहां माता और पिता शब्दों की जोर व्याख्या की जाती है उसको आप देखिये । माता पिता की व्याख्या संस्कृत में क्या है ? माता पिता शब्दों की व्याख्या करते हुए लिखा है :

"माता निर्माता भवति, पातीति पिता"

[श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री]

जो रक्षा करने का काम करता है उसे पिता कहते हैं । लेकिन निर्माण करने का काम माता को ही सौंपा गया है । हम इस विधेयक को बनाते समय बालकों की प्रवृत्तियों के निर्माण की ओर जा रहे हैं, इसलिये माता अथवा नारी का दायित्व बहुत बढ़ जाता है । इसलिये यदि इस प्रकार के बोर्डों में नारियों का स्थान विशेष रूप से रक्खा जायेगा तो यह विधेयक अधिक उपयोगी सिद्ध हो सकेगा ।

पांचवीं बात जो मैं इस विधेयक के सम्बन्ध में कहना चाहता हूं, हमारे शिक्षा मन्त्री उस पर विचार करें । इस विधेयक पर विचार करते समय इस प्रकार के बोर्डों के जो अधिकारी चुने जायेंगे उन के कार्यकाल का कोई निर्देश नहीं किया गया कि कितने दिन तक वे इन बोर्डों के अन्दर काम करेंगे । जब कोई इस प्रकार के संगठन बनाये जाते हैं तो उनमें इस प्रकार की बात होती है कि अमुक अमुक व्यक्ति का इतना कार्यकाल होगा, और यदि वह इस संगठन के नियमों के विपरीत कार्य करेगा तो उसे इस संगठन से हटा दिया जायगा, यदि बीच में ही इस प्रकार की बात हो गई, तो उसे बीच में ही हटा दिया जायगा । लेकिन इस विधेयक को बनाते समय इस पर ध्यान दिया जाय कि इसमें यह न्यनता रह गई है । मैं समझता हूं कि आगे के लिये कम से कम ऐसी न्यूनता को सम्भाला जा सकेगा ।

एक बात मैं और आवश्यक रूप से कहना चाहता हूं, और वह यह कि हम अपराधी बालकों की प्रवृत्तियों पर नियन्त्रण लगाने के लिये, इस विधेयक को सदन में लाये हैं तो उसमें इतना ध्यान रक्खा जाना चाहिये कि जितने स्कूल्स हैं, चिल्ड्रेन्स होम्स हैं, आब्जर्वेशन होम्स हैं, उन में लड़कों और लड़कियों के एक साथ रहने की जो व्यवस्था है वह न हो तो अधिक उपयुक्त होगा । हम वह बालक वहां लायेंगे जिनमें पहले से अपराधी प्रवृत्तियां जागृत हो चुकी हैं और हम चाहेंगे कि उन प्रवृत्तियों को रोका जाए, उन पर नियन्त्रण किया जाए, लेकिन अगर दोनों को एक ही स्थान में रखने की व्यवस्था की गयी तो भय है कि उन प्रवृत्तियों में और कहीं दूसरा मार्ग न खुल जाए । इसलिये मेरी अपनी इच्छा है और हमारा पुराना व्यवस्थाक्रम भी इस प्रकार का है कि इन दोनों को पृथक् पृथक् रखा जाए । अगर आपके पास उनको पृथक् रखने के लिये अलग अलग स्थान न हों तो भले ही उन भवनों के बीच में एक दीवार बना दी जाए, लेकिन अगर बालक और बालिकाओं को पृथक् पृथक रखने की व्यवस्था करेंगे तो अपराधी प्रवृत्तियों पर नियन्त्रण रखने में कुछ अधिक सफलता आपको मिलेगी ।

मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूं । आप बालकों की अपराधी प्रवृत्ति पर नियन्त्रण लगाने के लिये यह विधेयक लाये हैं, लेकिन जो उनको इन प्रवृत्तियों की ओर ले जाते हैं उनके लिये कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की गयी है । आपको इस प्रकार के लोगों के संगठन भी मिलेंगे । आप दूर क्यों जाएं, दिल्ली स्टेशन पर ही देखिए कि किस प्रकार बहुत से व्यक्ति छोटे छोटे बच्चों की टोलियां बना कर उनसे इस प्रकार के कार्य करवाते हैं । एक दृश्य मैंने स्वयं देखा । एक व्यक्ति एक बच्चे को बुरी तरह पीट रहा था और बच्चा तड़प रहा था । उसके बच्चे को जोर जोर से मारने पर बहुत से लोग जमा हो गए । वह बच्चा जो पिट रहा था एक सज्जन के पैरों में लिपट गया । आप जानते ही हैं कि इस प्रकार पिटते हुए बच्चे को देख कर आदमी को दया आ जाती है । लेकिन उस बच्चे के उस सज्जन के चिपटने के बाद भी वह व्यक्ति बच्चे को पीटता रहा । खैर किसी प्रकार उस बच्चे का पीटना रोका गया और वह सज्जन रेल के डब्बे में बैठ गए लेकिन थोड़ी देर बाद देखते हैं तो

उनका बटुका नदारद है । तो इस प्रकार की आदतें भी बच्चों को डाली जाती हैं । ऐसी स्थिति में उस बच्चे को उतना अपराधी न माना जाए लेकिन जो बच्चे में इस प्रकार की प्रवृत्ति जागृत करते हैं उनको दोषी माना जाए और ऐसे व्यक्तियों के लिये भी कोई व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिये ।

एक बात मैं और विशेष रूप से कहना चाहता हूं कि इस विधेयक में पुलिस को अधिक अधिकार दे दिये गये हैं । इसमें व्यवस्था है कि बच्चा २४ घण्टे तक पुलिस की कस्टडी में रहेगा और अगर उसको केन्द्र तक ले जाने की व्यवस्था न हो पाये तो उसको २४ घंटे से भी अधिक पुलिस की कस्टडी में रखा जा सकता है । मेरा अपना विचार है कि पुलिस की कस्टडी में २४ घंटे या इससे अधिक रखने की बजाए अगर ऐसे सामाजिक केन्द्रों की व्यवस्था की जा सके जिनमें बच्चा केन्द्र में जाने तक रखा जा सके तो ज्यादा उपयोगी होगा ।

अन्त में अपने वक्तव्य को उपसंहार की ओर ले जाते हुए मैं एक निवेदन विशेष रूप से करना चाहता हूं । हम देखते हैं कि हमारे शासन की यह प्रवृत्ति हो गयी है कि जिन समस्याओं का सामाजिक स्तर पर हल किया जा सकता है उनके लिये भी कानून बनाया जाता है । अगर इस समस्या का सामाजिक स्तर पर हल करने का प्रयास किया जाए तो ज्यादा उपयोगी होगा । इस प्रकार का कार्य करने वाली संस्थाएं हैं, जैसे राम कृष्ण मिशन है, आर्य समाज है और दूसरी बाल संस्थाएं हैं । अगर इन संस्थाओं का सहयोग प्राप्त किया जाये तो यह कार्य अधिक सुविधा के साथ हो सकता है । मैं निवेदन करता हूं कि इस प्रकार की छोटी छोटी बातों के लिये कानून बनाने की प्रवृत्ति पर नियन्त्रण लगाना चाहिये और जो समस्यायें सामाजिक स्तर पर हल हो सकती हैं उनको सामाजिक स्तर पर ही हल करने का प्रयत्न किया जाना चाहिये ।

Shri D. C. Sharma: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this Bill is the mirror of the sick civilisation and of the diseased society in which we are living these days. This Bill does not refer to the problems of our own country and our own age, but this Bill deals with problems that are global in their extent and that can be found in all countries of the world.

I am glad, Sir, that the Minister of Educotion has made a beginning in solving these problems and I wish good luck to him. But I will say this much, that the children's problems can be solved only when the society in which they live is a happy society, only when the society in which they live is free from tensions and frustrations, only when they society in which they live is free from those social maladies that are prevalent everywhere.

This world is today a battle ground for social forces against anti-social forces. Those anti-social forces have caught hold of not only adults but also children. That is why we have so many delinquent children. That is why we have so many neglected children. The family tie is getting looser and looser, and the result of that is that we have come across a new type of child called the neglected child. The social forces are diminishing day by day, and that is why we have delinquent children.

Now, how are we going to deal with them? I find that this Bill has been prepared with the utmost care and with a great deal of thoroughness. All the machinery that one can think of in terms of law, in terms of welfare agencies, in terms of homes and schools and in terms of organisations has been provided. I do not think anything has been left out here. All the paraphernalia, all the machinery for the care for children

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is to be found in this Bill. But I ask you one question. Will our problem of children be solved by these courts, by these welfare boards and by these homes and special schools? No, Sir. This problem of children will not be solved merely by that. But if this Bill succeeds in arousing the social conscience of the people of India towards the neglect of children, I think this Bill would have served a purpose.

Therefore, Sir, I think this Bill is more a warning to our nation, more a warning to our country than anything else. It is more a remembrance of the pitfalls into which our society is going than anything else.

Looking at this Bill, Sir, I find that it is weighted too much in favour of the urban society. What is this urban society? I think all the ills that we have today stem from this urban society and spread over to the other pars of our country. But 80 per cent of the people live in the villages. I would say that something should be done to provide adequate protection and relief to those children who are living in the villages. I know it will be said that this Bill will apply to the Union Territories also. I also know that by "Union Territories" it will mostly mean Delhi or some other big city, and the people of the villages will be neglected. Sir, the children living in the villages need as much care and protection as the children who are living in our big cites.

Another point that I want to make is this, that the provisions given in Chapter VI dealing with special offences in respect of children should be broadcast and should be made known everywhere. These are very wholesome things. I think these form the backbone of this Bill. Other people may think that courts and other things are good, but I feel that the special offences in respect of children which are dealt with in this chapter form the very marrow of this Bill.

I think this Bill should be a warning to those persons who practise any kind of cruelty to children. So far as cruelty to children is concerned, one can walk a hundred yards in any city or village and one will find many instances—of course, sometimes cruelty is deliberate and sometimes cruelty is indeliberate. But cruelty is there—mothers are cruel to children, parents are cruel to children, brothers are cruel to sisters and so on. I think we are living in an atmosphere of cruelty and the sooner we get rid of it the better.

16 hrs.

Again, I find that we are living in an age of exploitation, and while we are exploiting workers and everybody else we have started exploiting children also. I know that when I used to go to the railway station a young boy used to come to me and pin a tricolour flag on my coat. At first I did not understand what it was about. I thought he was a very good boy who was very patriotically inclined. But afterwards I realised that it was a form of begging. So, all kinds of beggings are taking place in this country. There are certain persons who try to kill the soul of children by giving them all kinds of intoxicating drugs. Then there are the beedi workers who make money by selling beedies. I would like you to go and see the places where beedies are manufactured, and you will find how all kinds of sweat and labour methods are employed there, and most of those who are engaged in it are young. So, all kinds of exploitation are practised on children. I believe that this is something which we should avoid.

Much has been said about the relative merits of men and women so far as the administration of the Bill is concerned. I have all respect for women, because I know they deserve it and I revere my mother much more than anybody else, and I thank God—she is still alive.

An Hon. Member: What is her age?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I have every respect for her. What I say is, this is not a case of men and women and it is not that men can do more justice to children than women can. I can tell you, whether a person is a man or a woman, only that woman and only that man can do justice to the cause of children who has the heart of a child. Tagore had the heart of a child and he would have done much more justice to this Bill than any woman could. I think that the Government should be very careful when it appoints members of the board and appoints the probation officers, etc. I think that these appointments should not be done in the usual bureaucratic fashion.

Shri Supakar: How can you diagnose a child's heart in man?

Shri D. C. Sharma I can tell the hon. Member that he has a child's heart within him. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I shall finish in a few minutes So far as the appointment of the persons under this measure in the Union territories is concerned, I should think that the Government should override the bureaucratic methods that they use in employing other officers. These officers are not to be treated as officers of the Indian Foreign Service or the Indian Administrative Service. They should be treated as officers who have some kind of missionary zeal in them. I think that for the working of these provisions, we require men of missionary zeal rather than men with a knowledge of psychology or economics or sociology or law.

We are having a Law Commission and the Commission is revising our laws from time to time and those reports are coming to us for our scrutiny and for our information. I believe that if we are going to have children's courts and other things we should do away with the Indian Penal Code and the Indian Criminal Procedure Code, and we should have a new code which should be called the Children's Code; we should judge the children by that code, and try to guide ourselves by that code. I think this suggestion can be made use of by the Law Commission, and that would be a unique step that our country could take towards progress.

The Education Minister has told us about the good points in the Bill. But he has not told us how much of money is going to be allotted for the working of the Bill. The Bill is good, and it is like the plan of a building. The plan of the building is good, but I want to know how much money is going to be spent in putting up that building—whether it will be a one-storeyed or double-storeyed or multi-storeyed building. Therefore, I would like the Minister to tell us how much money he is going to get from the Consolidated Fund of India for working this Bill and making it a success.

As the hon. Minister said, this Bill is of a very educative value. I think it is so, but I would also want the Bill to be one of practical value, and the practical value of the Bill could be felt only when ample funds are

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available, and when the machinery for running these boards and homes is good, and when the officers are such as will work this Bill in a spirit of unselfishness and a spirit of service.

Shri Radha Raman (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I also want to join the chorus of thankfulness to the Minister for bringing this Bill before the House. I am however unable to appreciate the long time that it has taken to become law. I find that much labour has been bestowed on it in order to bring the Bill to its present form. But after it went to the Joint Committee, I find that the changes which have been made in it, are all very good and have in fact, improved the Bill to a great extent.

I however find that there are still many deficiencies in it, and until they are removed either by some convention or legislative provisions, the Bill will not serve the purpose for which it has been brought before us. In the first instance, I find that the words used in this Bill do not sever themselves from the atmosphere, which in fact vitiate the objects of the Bill. On the very opening page itself, the Bill mentions words such as "trial of delinquent children" etc. The word "trial" is bad. I somehow could not reconcile myself to the fact that in a Childrens' Bill a child was going to be tried. I thought that the persons who were in charge of framing and bringing forward this Bill, had given full of consideration to this. We have to create a completely different atmosphere if we want our children to crow as really true citizens of our motherland. We have used the words 'magistrates', 'court', 'police' and so on and so forth. On the face of it, almost all such words vitiate the object for which this Bill was designed. I most humbly suggest to the hon. Minister of Education that in the matter of application or implementation of the various provisions of the Bill and also in framing the rules which will guide the implementation of this Bill, there should be more and more emphasis and attention paid on the fact that we have to deal with the child in a much different way than we deal with other people. The Bill provides two different agencies for the neglected child and the delinquent child. One will be the child welfare board and the other will be the children's court. In the first instance, I quite agree that it is desirable to deal with these two types of children in two different ways. But I certainly feel that if you really want a child, either a neglected child or a delinquent child, to get to his or her own, then, we have to see that these child welfare boards and the children's courts are not so named and are not made to act in the manner that other courts and other welfare boards are acting. When we deal with a child, we deal with a plant, and it has got a tendency to be directed or to be guided in any manner we like. Unfortunately, I should say that an average child in India, in my opinion, is a neglected child. We see around us all kinds of miseries befalling the children whom we want to grow up as true citizens of our motherland. We have been crying hoarse for 13 years that their lot should be improved, but I see that crores of children do not get proper food, proper clothing and proper educational and medical facilities, which are the right of every child in every civilised country. We have not been able to provide that. I do not know how it will be possible, in the circumstances as they exist today, to take care either of neglected children or of delinquent children. Anyway, I welcome this step that has been taken and I hope that with this Act, we shall be able to move forward a little, if not to the extent we would like to and there will be certain happy and healthy results.

In this Bill, it has been stated that there will be an administrator and

he will be advised by the child welfare board in all matters. This is a very good provision and let us hope that it will bring the results we are aiming it. But I feel that for the satisfactory implementation of this Bill, there is need for having widespread education among the parents. At least 75 per cent of the parents do not object their children to tell lies and they want that the children should not be delinquent. We actually do not pay due attention to their dress and other things and we want that the child should not remain a neglected child. These two things cannot go together. It is a big task which is assigned to the Government in order to make the children healthy and wholesome and make them proper citizens to discharge their duties when they come of age. So I welcome this Bill but at the same time I want that more attention should be paid towards spreading education among the parents.

There are already parents' associations and teachers' associations, but they are not able to discharge the responsibilities that enjoin on them. Therefore, it is necessary that these child welfare boards and other agencies that are being created should first create an atmosphere in which a child coming under their supervision may be completely at home. The child should feel that it is in a family; he should be treated as such and he should not feel he is having a stigma that he is an illegitimate child or that he is being tried in a court and there is a policeman taking him from one place to another and so on. Even if a policeman catches his hand and takes him to the parent, the very fact that the policeman has caught him creates an impression in his mind which lasts and ultimately spoils the object for which we want the child to go to the welfare board or to the trying court. So, it is absolutely necessary that more attention and more emphasis should be placed on this aspect.

Hon. Members have suggested that there should be tried missionary personnel who have got a real desire to help the child grow in a proper manner. I fully agree with it, but emphasis has been laid on psychologists. I somehow do not agree that a theoretical psychologist is a fit person to deal with delinquent children. There is that experience required and there may be hundreds of experienced men who may prove to be better men to deal with children than the theoretical psychologists with book knowledge only.

Therefore, in dealing with this, we should not be rather rigid. We should try to take help from all quarters—official and non-official, men and women. Our main object should be that the person who is put in charge of the child, should have real affection and love for the child. He or she should have that mission of life to make a boy or a girl a fit citizen of the country. That sort of thing will certainly bring good results.

I once again welcome this Bill and I congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing it forward. But I have my own apprehensions that unless the rules are framed in a proper way, unless the persons are selected in a proper way and they have the spirit of service in them, the results may not be as good as are anticipated. I hope some of the deficiencies which I have pointed out in it will be also removed.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Sir, the importance of children in society cannot be over-estimated. Whatever the other ideological differences may be between the Soviet Union and USA, they are one in this that they give first priority to the treatment of children from their early age right up to their attaining majority. The care of children is given a high place in those countries. Similarly in Sweden, expert care is being bestowed on children and after-care of children. Child psychology or pediatrics as it is

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called, has not advanced to such an extent and what appears at first sight to be delinquency really turns out to be a mental state which is curable. Precisely for that reason there are many children's homes, with experts guilding them and administering them.

It is true that in western countries, the problem of children has taken a different course from what it is in ours. In the west, it is on account of the broken home and children being left to themselves that in USA, for example, we have teddy boys, who even commit murders and who are responsible for a number of rapes. The delinquency has advanced so much. I am not painting a picture which is too red and exaggerated, but the fact remains that it is a big problem. Even in London, there are teddy boys in street corners. They are being handled with some little anxiety and care.

It is but proper that the Central Government should give the lead in this matter. We had a Bombay Act which is rather dilapidated and which was not serving the interests of children properly. 1948 was the last occasion when it was amended. So, I hope the lead given by the Union Education Ministry will be taken up by the other States and they will enact this sort of legislation.

It is true that you must have institutions for taking proper care of not only delinquent children, but also of neglected children. A proper approach is necessary. Frequent reference has been made to women being in charge of children's homes and to women having a predominant voice. While I heartily welcome it, I want the hon. Lady Members to note that so far as honorary magistracy is concerned, women magistrates are very much more severe than men magistrates.

Shri Palaniyandy (Perambalur): In Madras we have got very good women magistrates.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: In Madras also, the sentences are more brutal and severe. We must not have a rigid rule. You must not exclude the male variety so far as the administration and treatment is concerned. That is all I am pleading for.

With regard to the recognition of homes, I am very glad that clauses 10, 11 and 12 deal with the various stages of recognising institutions connected with children's care. In Madras we have the example of Sevasadan. A retired judge, Shri Venkatasubba Rao and his wife took up a huge institution. They have reclaimed many children. Many of those children are doing very well in life. We have Bal Mandir and most important of all we have the Ramakrishna Mission Students' Home which have been able to help and reclaim children. Similarly, the Avvai Home in Madras has been doing very important work. I am sure every State will have many bal mandirs.

The approach to all this has to be a scientific approach. The beginning menace is there. There is no doubt about it. The way children are used for begging purposes is a crying shame specially when the tourists come. I am surprised to see that our police authorities are so slack that a group of tourists is left alone. They are allowed to see anything. The moment they get out of the cars, they are surrounded by beggars. Most of these beggars are using children as aids for the purpose of begging. They must be severely dealt with. I have no doubt that the anti-begging laws will be applied rigorously and that the Children Bill be a good beginning and lead in so far as putting down of begging is concerned specially by children.

Rehabilitation of a delinquent child after he is taken into the home is very important. For that purpose the administrator must be a qualified man. You will have to teach and equip the many administrators and

their assistants so far as children's treatment is concerned. Many a time you will find that a child's case is a psychological case. He may be suffering from some neurosis or some complex and may be trying to shake it off. He may not have had a good home and parental care. That is precisely what is wanted in all these homes, that is, tenderness and a real spirit of trying to understand the child's mind. That is most important in all these children's homes. For that we must have really and scientifically qualified persons who will look after the children.

Children's homes should not merely be homes receiving neglected or delinquent children. They must also have educational facilities. They must have medical facilities. This is very very important. I also think—I agree with the one or two speakers who referred to this—that after a certain age these children should not be mixed up. Girls should have separate homes and boys should have separate homes. It is very proper that there should be segregation after a certain age specially with regard to delinquent children.

It is a very great pity that a child starts very early in his life trying to tell a lie and steal and not see anything wrong in these things. It will be a tremendous task to reclaim and rehabilitate them later on. Therefore trained officers to deal with the children's troubles with sympathy, care and some little expertise will be very very important.

I am glad that special provisions have been made in Chapter VI of the Bill now before the house. The punishment for curelty to children is there. Punishment for employment of children for begging is also there. I am also glad to find that you cannot take cognisance of an offence punishable under sub-section (1) unless the complaint is filed with the previous sanction of the Administrator or an officer authorised by him in this behalf. Once you start filing complaints in this matter, because in India there is so much poverty that in some cases it may be a case of their not being able to afford, something may happen. It is but proper that you take some little care before you haul up a man for a criminal offence.

It is also true that child labour is being used in an abominable degree in India. I am glad Professor Sharma referred to *bidi* labour. In many of these places where *bidis* are rolled, little children are doing this work. They cannot attend the school at all. They have to work for six or eight hours. Many of them lose their eyesight. They must have spectacles. Those places are not well lighted and are not properly ventilated. The Factories Act may not apply to some of these small *bidi* factories. That has to be attended to. Similarly, in zari work. I believe in Lucknow, tiny children do all this work. That is also a very cruel thing. The Bill should have a comprehensive grasp so far as child labour is concerned. The Administrator and the department dealing with children must be able to get hold of cases where child labour is being exploited and the children are not given a proper atmosphere to grow up in a healthy way.

Having said that, a doubt arises in my mind with regard to clause 3. I was just now discussing this with hon. Minister. It says:

> "Where an inquiry has been initiated against a child and during the course of such inquiry the child ceases to be such, then, notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or in any other law for the time being in force, the inquiry may be continued and orders may be made in respect of such person as if such person had continued to be a child."

That is to say, if a child attains the age of 18 while the inquiry is going on and it is treated as a child, you

[Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman]

may have other legal difficulties. But, I do not think we should get bogged simply because there are legal difficulties.

Once we have compulsory education for which we have planned in our Constitution, there will be an improvement. We have solemnly undertaken to make education compulsory especially in the elementary stages. Delhi has given the lead. In Madras, we have also the midday meal scheme to which the hon. Prime Minister has been frequently referring. We have midday meal scheme for poor children. Once compulsory education comes, you must see that children are not taken to work and people escape the rigours of the law of compulsory education. This is what happens. They say that the child has to augument the income of the parents and therefore they permit them to work. The child works for 7 or 8 hours. They say: let it read after 7 or 8 in the evening. If a child works for 8 hours, it will be hardly able to read anything after dusk. Therefore, once compulsory education comes and the midday meal scheme is also introduced, I have no doubt that the proper atmosphere will be given to the children of the nation. Having said that, I sincerely hope that the training of administrators would be taken up right on hand straightaway. Shri D. C. Sharma was saying that not much provision was made....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, the hon. Member should conclude.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: With regard to these homes, I find no provision is made for equipping the Administrators and Probation officers. Only Rs. 38,000 is provided. I do not think it will be enough. I hope steps will be taken to increase the amount.

Shri Kalika Singh: Sir, any legislative measure relating to children's welfare is always welcome. A Children Bill is generally welcome in the whole country, not only in the Union Territories. At present, we have not got Children Acts in all the States. It is for the first time here that the hon. Minister has just tried to assess the whole problem and bring a legislative measure relating to children and that is surely welcome.

The title of the Bill suggests that it covers everything relating to children. But, when we go into the provisions of the Bill, we see that it deals only with neglected and delilnquent children. Therefore, the title ought to have been Neglected and Delinquent Children Bill or something like that. It ought not to have been Children Bill, because Children means and includes the whole of the children population which we have got in the Union Territories or in the country as a whole. Being is a Children Bill, it ought to have covered the whole of the Children population and dealt with every aspect of welfare of children.

We know that we have already got the Social Welfare Board which looks to all these problems. We have got journals which deal with so many social welfare works, and everything about the children is also covered, but we are now establishing child welfare boards, children's courts, observation homes, special schools etc. If we want to make these institutions effective, we will have to provide sufficient money so that they may not remain only on paper, because the Social Welfare Board, after the passing of this Bill, will not go into the problems of children below the age of 16 years in the case of boys and 18 in the case of girls.

There is some lacuna in the Bill. The definition of begging says:

"(b) 'begging' means—

(i) soliciting or receiving alms in a public place or entering on

any private premises for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms....."

And the definition of a neglected child says:

"(1) 'neglected child' means a child who—

(i) is found begging; or

(ii) is found without having any home...."

As an hon. Member pointed out, in India we have got a large number of persons, whether children or majors, who have got begging as a profession ordained by religion, and if our Constitution prohibits interference with religion, these Children's courts might be confronted with a problem when a writ is filed in the High Court challenging the Act.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: May I submit that where begging is made a religious thing, there he does not have children; he is supposed to be leading a life of *brahmacharya* or sanyasi?

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): He takes children as *chelas*.

Shri Kalika Singh: In the Hindu Religious Endowment and other endowment Acts the custom of a particular community is recognised as the law or the usage under which that law is administered. Where a religious *guru* nominates a *chela* and initiates him into that religion—the *chela* may be a minor of five or ten years of age—it becomes the religious duty of that boy to go begging. There are Buddhist *bikshus* and so many other religious people who have got that custom.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has still four minutes. Would he like to have it today or tomorrow?

Shri Kalika Singh: I will have it tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then he may continue tomorrow.

16.34 hrs.

*IMPLEMENTATION OF ELECTION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): I am raising this half-hour discussion on the reply given by the hon. Minister of Law on 2nd December, 1960 in reply to Starred Question No. 636 dealing with the Election Commission Recommendations.

As the House is aware, soon after the second general election was over, the Election Commission published a very detailed report giving as many as 40 recommendations to be followed by the Ministry of Law. Repeatedly, questions were asked in this House as to what had happened to those recommendations. On the 17th August, 1960, in reply to starred question No. 483, the Deputy Minister of Law, Shri Hajarnavis, was pleased to state as follows:

"Most of the important recommendations of the Election Commission have already been given effect to by suitable amendments of the election law. Some of the remaining recommendations raise highly controversial issues which were the subject of discussion in the House as well as in the Select Committee on earlier occasions. All these recommendations will have to be examined in detail before concrete proposals for amendment of the election law are finalised. No time-limit can, therefore, be prescribed for implementing all the recommendations.".

This was what the Deputy Minister of Law stated on that occasion. So, the question of suitable amendment of the election law still stands, and the question of implementing many of the recommendations of the Election Commission remains still be fulfilled.

*Half-an-hour discussion

[Shri Tangamani]

16·36 hrs.

[SHRI MULCHAND DUBE *in the Chair*]

On the previous occasion, the hon. Minister stated how the new amendment which went to the Select Committee had more or less taken up some of the recommendations of the Election Commission, and they have now more or less taken away the right of retirement. The tribunals will now have to report to the Election Commission as soon as a particular election is declared null and void. There is also a provision to prevent impersonation by the use of the identity card. In the case of indirect elections also, forfeiture of deposits is provided for, and a new set of rules known as the Election Rules, 1960, was laid on the Table of the House.

In the course of his replies to many of the supplementaries that were asked, the hon. Minister stated that in view of the experience in the bye-election in South-West Calcutta, as a result of which election, as the House is aware, Shri Indrajit Gupta was returned to this House, Government had decided that they were not going to continue this practice. In the Select Committee and later on in this House also, it was pointed out by many Members that the Governmental machinery was not adequate enough to deal with impersonation, and they also stated how this machinery which was not completely above board would disfranchise some of the voters, as has happened in Calcutta. However, I am not going into that matter now.

I would now raise certain points arising out of the recommendations of the Election Commission. I would request the hon. Minister to tell this House about the experiences that they and the Election Commission have gained as a result of the mid-term elections in Kerala.

The rules have been framed now, but I find that even though there is a simple rule in some respects, it is very irksome. Rule 26 provides that whenever anyone wants to have his name included in the rolls, he has to make an application which is to be accompanied by a stamp for Rs. 5, if it is to the chief electoral officer, or Re. 1 if it is to the registration officer. This, to my mind, appears to be very bad. If his name has not been included, let him be given the right to apply without the payment of this Re. 1 or Rs. 5. This is a very simple matter which needs to be looked into.

As for identity cards, Government themselves are going to give it up, although it is now included in rule 28. There is absolutely no necessity in having rule 28 now, when, on the floor of the House, the hon. Minister has said that this practice is going to be given up altogether.

In rule 24, there is a special provision for the preparation of rolls on re-delimitation of constituencies. We do not know whether there is going to be any re-delimitation. The Two-Member Constituencies (Abolition) Bill, 1960, has been circulated to us, and it is going to be introduced tomorrow. We would like to know how long it will take, as per the special provisions, for this re-delimitation. Coming to the Bill itself, many hon. Members will have occasion to speak on it when it comes up for discussion, but this Bill itself was not contemplated by the Election Commission as per their recommendation No. 3.

On the question of deposit, one recommendation that was made—though it is a minor one—was this, that if a candidate withdraws, soon after withdrawal, the deposit must be refunded to him. Where is the provision now? There is no provision made.

Another thing is that transferred government servants must be enabled to send their ballot papers by post. I do not know what provision has been made. But they make certain recommendations even to increase the deposit, with which, of course, I do not agree.

They make another recommendation—recommendation No. 14—about the return of expenses. Many political parties have already suggested that the election expenditure must be reduced. Here, when the return is submitted, we do not see how much has been spent. Only that amount which has been spent—rightly or wrongly or judging that he is making an honest return—by the candidate is shown. What happens to the amount spent by his well-wishers, by the agents and by the political party concerned. This question has been very pointedly raised in recommendation No. 14. I would like an answer to that.

Regarding appeal, the Commission say that the appeal should be to the Supreme Court, not to the High Courts, under certain circumstances. I do not know how this restriction on appeal can be brought about. Some ways and means must be devised for that. If there is an election petition filed, there are now possibilities of it dragging on for three or even four years. There is absolutely no remedy because the Supreme Court has got the supreme power. I do not want those powers to be taken away. So some way must be found to bring this about.

Another point is that now there are ever so many election petitions filed on frivolous grounds. There must be some screening machinery. It is not contemplated here by the Election Commission. But I believe—subject to correction—that such a machinery does exist in U.K. A screening machinery is necessary before an election petition is filed. Election petitions also create further bitterness. Where there is no *prima facie* case even, election petitions can be filed. All that has to be done to file a petition and deposit a certain amount of money. The election petition is there. Such things are now happening.

I would like to know what has been the experience of the mid-term elections in Kerala in this respect. But from what I have heard from reports, I would like to place before the House two or three points. In almost all election petitions, they have demanded recounting. Whether the petition is filed by the Congress or by the Communist Party or by any other party, for that matter, one of the main demands is for recounting. There were two cases. One case was of a petition filed by Shri Krishna Iyer. Another was a petition filed against Shri Achutha Menon. Recounting showed that Shri Achutha Menon's majority was increased by 18. In the case of Shri Krishna Iyer, he lost by a less number; it was reduced from 23 to 9, that is *minus* 14.

The tribunal has stated that there is a certain human element involved in it. So something has got to be done. My suggestion is that when there is counting, there must be more counting agents. I am not casting aspersions on anybody. The tribunal has said that they have not got a foolproof method now. So it is necessary that some machinery should be devised. More counting agents may be there. That is one way.

Then I come to the question of ballot papers. The other day when the hon. Minister was producing a ballot paper, I was inclined to raise an objection on the ground that he should not demonstrate it in that manner. Shri Easwara Iyer was one of those persons who was present at the time of recounting. He was not able to find out whether the seal was put on the symbol or behind it, because it made no difference. The paper is so transparent that one could see through it from this side or that side. So the ballot papers should not be so transparent as they are now.

On the question of the marking system, I think the House has decided to accept this system. Now there is some distance between the place where the marking is made and where the ballot boxes are kept. It must be kept in a very prominent place. That is another point that I would like to raise in this connection.

They have also suggested that we must have some building for storing

[Shri Tangamani]

our election materials. May I know whether any step has been taken towards that end?

The last point is, of course, one which many hon. Members would like to raise on double-member constituencies because a Bill is going to be introduced tomorrow. I will not raise it.

There was a mid-term general election which took place in Kerala. It is admitted that in Kerala the electorate —most of them—is literate. So, the number of discarded votes is not very large. Election petitions have also shown certain results. So, all these matters may be looked into again and the Election Commission may be asked to submit another report as they have done after the general election of 1957 so that before the next election takes place which is going to be on the basis of marking on the ballot paper, the House would be in a position to guide and help the Ministry and through the Ministry the Election Commission in the conduct of the next general election.

Shri Sampath (Namakkal): As per recommendation No. 13 in Part B of the recommendations of the Election Commission has any decision been taken to provide for the political parties the use of the All India Radio for the purpose of election propaganda as is permitted in the U.K.?

The next question which I would like to put is this. The Report says in its recommendation No. 14 in Part A that the recently amended provisions of law with regard to election expenses did not appear to serve any useful purpose whatsoever. May I know whether any new proposal would be forthcoming to make the enforcement of this law effective?

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): May I know whether the Government have considered the suggestion that the system of recognising All India parties on the basis of the votes polled by them at the last general election be considered again and suitably amended by giving a direction to the Election by which parties who have got a certain programme and standing and organisation in the country are all recognised to be All India parties? Has any clarification been made by which a party may not be recognised, fictitiously or in an artificial way without any programme or principle, as an All India party?

Another point is this. We have to consider the desirability of a member of this House becoming a Minister in a State and still being a representative of his or her constituency in this House. Will they change the law on the subject? Under the law a member is required to represent his or her constituency in this House. If he or she becomes a Minister in a State then that constituency is being debarred from being represented in this House. I am putting this question because a certain Member of this House has been made a Minister in the State of U.P. Her constituency is being debarred from representation here in this House. Under the present law for 6 months she can remain a Minister and a Member of this House also. In this way, the member is depriving the constituents of the constituency from being represented here in this House. Will Government consider the desirability of changing the law and make a provision that a Member of this House cannot be a Minister elsewhere in some State?

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya (West Dinajpur): In the election to the upper House of the State Assemblies—at least so far as West Bengal is concerned —from the Graduates' Constituency, I find that ballot papers are issued to voters and a note is kept in the counter-foils by taking the signature of the person who takes the paper or in some other way when the ballot paper is issued to the person. This practically foils the purpose of election by ballot and anyone taking the ballot paper and comparing it with the counter-foil can easily find out who has voted for whom. Will they kindly give up this system?

Shri Ranga (Tenali): At the time of the first general elections, all those parties which claimed to function over the whole of India were recognised as All India parties and were granted symbols. Later on the Election Commission developed the present formula that only those parties would continue to be recognised as all India parties that obtain a particular percentage of votes. That naturally has created a special difficulty for parties like mine and also that of the friends who claim to be socialists under the leadership of Dr. Lohia....

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Claim?

Shri Ranga: I have not said anything wrong; you claim to be socialists.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: We are socialists.

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): He objects to the expression 'claim'.

Shri Ranga:.....who call themself the socialist party.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: We are socialists.

Shri Ranga: They may be socialists; I am not discussing that part of it now. I am only strengthening your point of view.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: I know.

Shri Ranga: Then why do you interrupt and waste my time? The present rules naturally create a difficulty for such parties as ours which have had to come and which have come into existence after the last general elections were over. I do not want to put it by way of a question and say: "has any need arisen.....?" A need has arisen for the Government as well as the Election Commission to review the position and try and develop a procedure which would meet our needs also. May I request the hon. Minister to keep in mind this particular political need of these parties as well as of those people who are behind these parties and as a special case, if need be—to convene a conference of the leaders of all the political parties which have been recognised and which claim to be all India parties and after consulting them try to evolve a policy by which it would be possible for the Government to review the present policy to accommodate the new parties that have come into existence?

Shri Tyagi: In rule No. 8 of these rules, I find that it reads like this:

> "The registration officer may, for the purpose of preparing the rolls send letters of request in form 4 to the occupants of dwelling houses in the constituency or any part thereof and every person receiving any such letter shall furnish the information called for....".

I wonder whether the Ministry has considered the possibility of making their rolls out of the census registers. Census has to take place within a year and they will have complete data about occupants of all the houses, adult population, their names, etc. Everything is there. Could it not be possible for them to make a list out of those registers?

I also want to know whether they are going to write to every dwelling house to get the information? As far as my knowledge goes, till now it was the official agency which collected the details by itself. The officials or persons employed by the agency go to these parts, find out the names, etc. I wonder if the whole list is to be prepared on the basis of written letters and answers received. If that is so, it will create a lot of difficulties. If it is in an exceptional case, in the case of a house about which they have no detailed information, I can understand that. But if the whole list is to be made out by means of this type of correspondence I am afraid, Sir, your list will not be accurate, will not be complete. I would suggest that you may take the help of census officers and thereby avoid extravagance in expen-

[Shri Tyagi]

diture and be sure that every adult is enrolled.

Shri A. K. Sen: Mr. Chairman, it is difficult to answer all the questions which have been raised, but may I indicate briefly the main changes made since the recommendations of the Election Commission were published? The recommendations of the Election Commission will appear in Chapter 30 of the Report on the Second General Elections of 1957. They were, in fact, many in number, out of which we have tried to give effect to those which are more or less of a non-controversial nature.

I may start with the rules which were recently laid on the Table of the House concerning the revision of electoral rolls, the point which was referred to by Shri Tyagi just a few moments ago. The procedure was also commented upon by Shri Tangamani. Sir, the system followed now is a house to house correction every year. No other system can make the electoral roll as perfect as it is possible under the circumstances. Every year, the rolls of a particular constituency are checked, verified and finalised before the final list is published. Then objections are called for. Objections under the new rules would be decided in a much more simple way, either objections for inclusion or objections against inclusion. Previously there used to be the revising authority—hon. Members will remember that they used to be magistrates. I was myself given briefs by the parties concerned to argue in a few cases. I remember that there used to be hundreds and hundreds of such cases and it used to take an enormous amount of time. The magistrates are hardly fitted for this kind of job. The new rules provide that objections are to be heard and disposed of by electoral officers of the constituency with the right of appeal. I think that will make it much more expeditious and simple. It also does away with the necessity of the objector himself appearing and arguing. Sometimes it is very difficult.

After the objections are heard the list is finalised and published. It is only then if anyone has not taken care to having his name included or excluded before the lists are finalised and published that a further application for inclusion has to be accompanied by a fee of one rupee. I think that is necessary, because otherwise every one will keep it till the last moment and it will be impossible before the general elections to finalise the rolls. This necessity of paying one rupee at the time of elections for one's name being included in the list is a safeguard to ensure that every one will be quick enough to see that his name is properly included in the electoral list so that when objections are to be heard he should put in his objections if any and get himself included rather than wait till the last moment.

The next important thing which has been brought about is in relation to Section 55A of the Representation of the People Act which was recommended by the Election Commission—recommendation No. 5. This is necessary not only for the purpose of ensuring that there are no last minute withdrawals making the task of the voters difficult but also for the purpose of ensuring that the marking system of voting can be enforced. If the retirement is permitted till the very last stage, then the marking system of voting will be impossible, because the marking system of voting requires that the ballot papers must include the names of all candidates with their symbols. If a candidate retires ten days before the elections, it will be impossible to have the ballot papers made ready for the elections. That is why Section 55A has been deleted.

17 hrs.

Then the third recommendation which was implemented was the requirement that every tribunal dealing with an election petition should in-

form the Election Commission on any order declaring an election to be void or also intimating any stay order. Then we have also amended section 61 of the Act passed in 1950. That of course is not very important now. That was for the purpose of enabling the identity cards to be brought into force in areas where, due to congestion of population and the fleeting nature of the population, impersonation was adopted on a very large scale. Of course, we have now found that it is very difficult to enforce these photographs and identity cards except at enormous cost.

We have laid from time to time the rules we have made for the purpose of implementing the major recommendations of the Election Commission. We had also stated only the other day that we are trying to expedite the holding of elections even in the snow-bound areas and in the mountainous areas so that all elections in all the areas will be completed by May, 1962. Hon. Members will certainly bear in mind the extent of the country—the outlying population, how it is spread over, the snow-bound and mountainous areas, etc.

Shri Hem Raj (Kangra): I want to know whether those elections will be completed before the election of the President and the Vice-President takes place.

Shri A. K. Sen: Every effort will be made, but if the President and the Vice-President are to be elected before May, I do not know how far it will be possible to complete the elections in snow-bound areas, because, after all, the snows do not melt according to our convenience.

Shri Hem Raj: In view of the fact that the machinery is already there in the border areas—the SDOs and the Deputy Commissioners—and they can move freely in their areas, may I know whether arrangements will be made to have the elections early, by sending the ballot-papers also earlier?

Shri A. K. Sen: If the elections are to be proper, all the persons have to be given the facilities to cast their votes. How can it be possible to hold the elections when the areas are completely snow-bound? You must allow the snow to melt so that the people can come and cast their votes.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): What is the final proposal?

Shri A. K. Sen: We are trying to do it as soon as possible.

Shri Hem Raj: Cannot the materials be sent there earlier so that the whole staff can work there in the valleys?

Shri A. K. Sen: It is not merely a question of sending the materials. The question is one of voters reaching the booths from the far outlying areas.

Shri Hem Raj: The voters can reach there.

Shri A. K. Sen: The hon. Member will have to rely, for judgment on these matters, on the Election Commission rather than on his own personal experience.

With regard to the question raised by Shri Ranga, about the recognition of all-India parties, there is no other criterion we can think of excepting what has been devised by the Election Commission. How is a party to be considered an all-India party? Shri Braj Raj Singh says regard must be had to the programme, its organisation and so on. But the programme and organisation are tested by the number of votes they get. Who is to judge?

Shri Ranga: I do not want him to give his decision here and now. I want him to give some thought to it. They were not in existence at the time of the last election. One question begs the other.

Shri A. K. Sen: Suppose there is another party which comes into existence in January. Should the rules

[Shri A. K. Sen]

of the Election Commission be revised simply because parties are growing or parties are cropping up like mushrooms? If they grow, they will certainly get their recognition as soon as they reflect themselves in the coming election.

Shri Ranga: Then there is no question of anybody recognising them. That is why the need arises now for you to give some consideration to it. Otherwise, who would bother to ask the Government or the Election Commission for recognition?

Shri A. K. Sen: I hope Shri Ranga is not thinking of fading out after the general elections.

Shri Ranga: He need not give a decision here and now.

Shri A. K. Sen: If he is not fading out after the general election,he may as well hold his reins until the next general election.

Shri Tangamani: What about the points I raised?

Shri Sampath: Not even a single question of mine has been answered.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Will the 3 per cent rule, which is in force today, be maintained?

Shri A. K. Sen: Rules must be followed unless they are changed by Parliament.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: They can be changed by the Eelection Commission.

Shri A. K. Sen: The Election Commission cannot change them.

Shri Tangamani: The hon. Minister has not replied to any point of mine, about the ballot paper and also the other points.

Mr. Chairman: Hon. Members should have given previous notice of points they wanted to raise. The Minister is not expected to answer every point.

Shri Ranga: That is why I said, I do not want the Minister to give a decision now, but to think about it.

Shri A. K. Sen: The decisions are already there. Parliament has accepted the rules. Until better rules are devised, the existing rules will continue. Those who think of surviving after the next general elections should certainly have patience.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: What about membership of this House and ministership in another State?

Shri A. K. Sen: That is a personal question. Speaking for myself, I should be very loath to prevent a fine Member of this House from joining as a Minister in another State.

Shri Tyagi: Since it pertains to a Minister in my State, I must say that it is permitted by law for a Member of Parliament to remain as a Minister in another State for six months.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Chairman: This half-hour discussion is over.

17.07 hrs.

*STATE TRADING CORPORATION

Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal): Sir, I have ventured to raise this brief discussion on the State Trading Corporation not out of any motive to criticise its functioning or to undermine its prestige, but to correct certain anomalies which one can notice in the peculiar functioning of the S.T.C. The genesis of this matter is like this.

*Half-an-hour discussion.

In course of interpellations on Starred Question No. 784 on 8th December, 1960, I asked a question:

> "May I know whether it is the policy of the Government and the State Trading Corporation to issue letters of authority to private individuals and private importers?"

The Minister replied:

> "That is a normal procedure in all import licensing to anybody. The State Trading Corporation is one of the parties which gets a licence. Every party to whom a licence is issued in certain circumstances is permitted to authorise somebody else to deal with a part of it."

The Minister seems to equate any party, any private individual, with the State Trading Corporation. I venture to submit that the S.T.C. cannot be equated with any private individual. If the Minister will care to recollect, the genesis of the S.T.C., he will realise that the S.T.C. in the public sector was forged for having import trade on a nation to nation basis in strategic and other raw materials necessary for the industry. Therefore, the S.T.C. as a body in the public sector cannot be equated with a private individual, with a private importer or with a private actual user. That is the first point and I hope the Minister will kindly bear this in mind when he replies to this debate.

Let me cite a concrete case. The S.T.C. has been handling zinc. Zinc is a non-ferrous metal and has got a strategic importance in the pattern of our industrial manufactures.

In reply to the question No. 1354 dated the 8th April, 1960, it was stated:.

> "To meet the part requirements of units consuming zinc which are licensed under the Industries Act for the period October, 1959—March, 1960 the State Trading Corporation was expected to import a quantity of about 8,600 tons from rupee resources. The State Trading Corporation imported about 2,100 tons from rupee resources against the demand by March, 1960."

Here you find a situation that against the effective demand sponsored and sanctioned by the Development Wing of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, the actual users had been allotted 8,600 tons of zinc—and that is essential if the industries are to run and if the assembly lines of the various units have to function—the State Trading Corporation failed to provide this raw material. Here is the State Trading Corporation, a body which undertakes to import 8,600 tons of zinc for this period from the rupee currency area. But the pitiable fact is that the State Trading Corporation could not import that quantity which it had undertaken to import, which resulted in various difficulties.

What did the State Trading Corporation do to mitigate that situation? In this particular instance the State Trading Corporation gave the licences to two leading indenting houses of Calcutta and increased the quota of the private importers. Here I am not going into the larger question of private sector *versus* public sector. Whether the private importers will be allowed to function or not is a far bigger question and is beyond the purview of this brief debate. I am not going into that. But when you undertake to import a certain quantity and you fail, you have no business to issue letters of authority to private importing houses which creates a potential atmosphere and conditions for blackmarketing. In this particular case of zinc, as you know this being a very rare and strategic material, blackmarketing goes on in this country only on the count that the State Trading Corporation which undertakes to supply this raw material fails to supply and then to ease the

[Shri Mahanty]

situation issues letters of authority, in favour of private parties.

17·13 hrs.

[SHRI JAGANATHA RAO *in the Chair*]

Of course, the S.T.C. cannot issue letters of au hority. Letters of authority have to be issued by the Chief Controller of Imports, as the hon. Minister had pointed out. But that can be done only on the recommendation of the State Trading Corporation. The State Trading Corporation recommends the import through private agencies, of these non-ferrous metals and other materials and the Chief Controller of Imports issues the letters of authority on the recommendation of the State Trading Corporation.

When that happens; a private importer can import material or get it through the State Trading Corporation to be passed on to the actual consumers or users. In this case the importer will keep a margin of profit for himself over and above the price at which he is getting it from the S.T.C. Therefore if it was our intention to eliminate the middleman's profit so far as this particular sector was concerned, I feel the State Trading Corporation was putting a premium on that ill-gotten marginal profit to which the private importer was not entitled. It frustrated the very objective of having the State Trading Corporation.

The actual user, if he gets it from the S.T.C., stands to gain as no intermediary profit will be passed on to the importer or to any middleman. Letter of authority issued to an importer can be passed on to the actual consumer against some profit as the importers are not actual consumers and the material has to reach the consumer. In this case the consumer has to pay a little more price as the letter of authority for quota is passed on to a middleman. Therefore I take exception to the very fact that the licence that is received by the State Trading Corporation should be transferred to private importers If you cannot effectively utilise that, you should rather ask the actual users, those who require the raw materials, to import than route these importing programmes through private importers. This is creating a situation which is neither congenial to the actual users, nor for the consumers nor is it also congenial to the prestige and status of the State Trading Corporation.

Before concluding, I would venture to submit that, if only the Government would agree to place on the Table of the House a list of the private importers to whom letters of authority have been granted through the recommendation of the State Trading Corporation and,—I do not make any direct allegation—if only an enquiry is made whether these private importers have indulged in black-marketing or not, we will be faced with almost a stark scandal. Before I conclude, I will once again urge on the Government that they should streamline the State Trading Corporation. If the State Trading Corporation itself thinks capable of doing a particular job, if it thinks that it is capable of importing a particular quantity of raw materials or strategic materials, it should do so without recommending for issue of letters of authority, not in favour of actual users, but private importers, who manipulate the market, manipulate the price and in the bargain, it does not do any good to the prestige of the State Trading Corporation or it does not help the consumers and the actual users. Thank you.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): In addition to what Shri Mahanty had asked, . .

Mr. Chairman: Only a question, please.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I request the Government to place on the Table of the House a statement showing the value of the goods obtained through letters of authority issued by the State Trading Corporation within the last one year? Also may I know whether the State Trading Corporation, which exports shoes from India to outside countries, is purchasing the shoes from Agra through their sub-agents who are not giving adequate price to the manufacturers of shoes, and whether the Government will revise their policy with regard to the purchase of shoes from Agra and the State Trading Corporation will directly purchase the shoes from the manufacturers?

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): I must, at the very outset, confess that the State Trading Corporation was the result of persistent demand from these Benches that trading in exports and imports . . . .

Shri Punnoose (Ambalapuzha): Only a question can be put. How can the hon. Member break it?

Mr. Chairman: Please frame the question.

Shri Tyagi: I am coming . . . should be taken up by the Government themselves, and I think they have done very well. There are certain points on which I want some clarification. At present, for some time, we have been allowing without any control collaboration of foreign capital in India. I do not see in any Planning Commission report any limit or ceiling put on that collaboration, which means that foreign capital is being allowed to come into India freely to exploit the market here or the industries here, to any extent they like, and in the public sector also. One question that I want to put to my hon. friend is, could they not consider the possibility of just having some equity capital for the State Trading Corporation, to the extent of 40 per cent. Thereby, we shall be in a position of having complete control over all the import and export trade. Because, under-invoicing and over-invoicing creates a lot of foreign exchange difficulty outside and is the cause of black marketing and all that, Income-tax evasion, and tax evasion here in India. Could it not be possible to spread the activities so as to cover all exports and imports through the State Trading Corporation? Many people will be dislocated. Therefore the Government might invite equity capital and a share may be allowed to the public. If foreign capital could collaborate, I cannot understand how the public sector loses its beauty of being public if our own public joins it.

Another question is about the profit of the State Trading Corporation. There must be some statutory limit on it because that profit, from all points of view, is as good as an excise duty, because things are consumed here and the profit goes to the Government exchequer. Therefore I suggest that Government must devise plans whereby the Corporation should have a ceiling on the percentage of profit it is entitled to. In some cases it is at present having 10 per cent profit, and it gives 10 per cent commission to its distributors. It is engaging distributors and also middlemen to buy for it. That also requires detailed examination.

I do not want to raise many questions. These are the only two or three points which I wanted to raise.

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): I would like to go back to the earlier debates in the House when the State Trading Corporation was established. Government's policy was clearly enunciated that the S.T.C. was not designed to supplant any line of trade, but only to supplement. I mention this because today under the direction of Parliament the S.T.C. cannot go into competition in particular lines or particular destinations where normal trading is existing.

[Shri Kanungo]

Coming to the specific point raised by my hon. friend Shri Mahanty, we have to realise that the S.T.C. does trading in certain commodities on its own volition, that is where it means to be in the trade permanently Apart from that, it is directed by Government to handle certain commodities for a certain time, for example zinc. It was never contemplated that the S.T.C. should go permanently into the trade of non-ferrous metals because non-ferrous metals have been an item of trade for many decades, I suppose more than half a century. Now, the situation arose that because we did not have enough reserves of foreign exchange, it was not possible to import adequate quantity of zinc and several other materials which are needed for consumption by industry. Therefore, the S.T.C. was directed by Government to undertake the import of certain commodities including zinc.

This direction is for a limited period, in other words, till normal conditions prevail in the exchange field. Maybe with its experience, knowledge and contacts, the S.T.C. may continue trading in some of these items because it has as a matter of fact tapped new sources of supply, new destinations of obtaining its goods. Therefore, it may go into it, but this was not the normal line of trade into which the S.T.C. wanted to go, but it did so at the direction of Government. Why did Government direct it? Government directed it because, apart from trading with various free currency areas, where also the S.T.C. has been directed, and it is doing work, it has got trade agreements with several countries, which is based not upon balancing by free exchange but upon balancing of trade. In other words, there are certain countries which trade with India on the basis of what we shall call rupee-account. They trade on the basis that India buys a certain amount of goods from those countries, and it is assumed that within the year, the value of the goods imported is balanced by exports of goods to those destinations. In this matter, it is inevitable that there must be some focal point at which the balancing has got to be judged from month to month and from quarter to quarter. If there is no check and no control, then it may be possible that we may be importing more goods than we are able to balance by exports. Some of these countries which do trade on a totalitarian basis have also their own trade agencies in India. In other words, they have been trying in India as well as elsewhere to find out contacts in India with importers who have been in the line, to persuade them to handle their goods.

When we enter into a contract, what happens in this. Take the instance of zinc, for example. When we became short, Government directed the S.T.C. to find out from which sources they can get as much of that commodity as possible. My hon. friend Shri Mahanty said that the S.T.C. undertook to import a certain quantity, but it failed to do so. It is true that it failed, because it could not get that quantity of zinc from any source at a price which was convenient to us. In other words, at that particular time, we were not in a position to buy from the free market on payment of free currency. We had to go in for those sources of supply which could offer us the particular item like zinc—because there are several other items, like zinc—against payment by goods, that means, by balancing the trade by exports of goods. In spite of the best efforts, the S.T.C. could not get from those sources the quantity which we wanted. Therefore, there was a shortage.

This whole discussion arose out of the answers to his question, where I said that the import licences were endorsed to other parties. I shall try to explain the mechanism of how it happens. It happens in the case of the S.T.C. and it happens in the case of others also, but it happens particularly in the case of STC. Suppos-

ing the STC finds 2000 tons zinc from a country, say X. The country X have their own agents here, Indian agents who have been in the trade before, who have been buying zinc or various other materials in the normal course of trade and by paying free currency. But, when the free currency is not available, the exporting country asks that the goods should be imported through them. This is because they have got their lines with them. But from the point of view of our interest, we have to see that we get the goods which are in short supply so that we can keep control over the prices and distribution. What we do is this. The Chief Controller of Imports issues the licence as STC and the STC imports direct as much as it can from those countries which have got arrangements in India. They ask those agents to import that quantity. That means, they endorse the licence for a fixed quantity to be imported by them, which otherwise could not be imported. The point is that they could not have imported it by themselves. It is necessary that with their contacts they are able to handle the goods so that when the goods arrive, the conditions of endorsement are that they shou'd be distributed according to the directions of the Chief Controller of Imports at a specified price, that is, c.i.f price *plus* interest, storage, distribution and various other charges which vary from commodity to commodity.

As far as actual users are concerned, there are scheduled industries. The Development Wing knows what are the requirements. Naturally, if the requirement is 100, it says to the party 'You will have 20 per cent. of your requirement'. They can get a licence endorsed in their favour and directly import it or the S.T.C. imports it and passes it on to them.

17.28 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The established importer to whom the licence has been given supplies them the goods at the price fixed by the Development Wing. Apart from that, a certain quantity has to be kept on stock and sale because all industries are not covered by that Wing. There are also other industries. Particularly in the case of zinc, there are many small consumers. Their demands are met by the recommendations of the Director of Industries of the State concerned. Then those are lumped together. The Small Industries Corporation vets them, decides how much to allot to each State and then passes on the indent to the parties who maintain the goods on stock and sale basis.

The price, mode of distribution and profit margin are all decided by the S.T.C. The S.T.C. in their contracts exercise a check very vigilantly under the conditions thereof; the books of their associates are checked by competent inspectors by competent accountants, and by constant checking they see that the goods are delivered to the parties authorised to accept them at the authorised price.

Now, I would not say that there is no leakage. Obviously, there can be leakage at every source. The actual user or small user who is allowed to indent by the Director of Industries can buy the goods and do the needful. We try to be as vigilant as possible. But I do not deny that there are chances of leakage because the profits on sales of these scarce commodities are very high indeed. But we try to obviate this factor by constant supervision and inspection and also try to get as much quantities of the material as possible, so that the shortage will not be there.

Shri Braj Raj Singh mentioned about shoes. It is an export item. In the export items, the contract is usually between the S.T.C., which takes all the risks of supply, rejection and everything, and the buyer at the other end, which is usually a monopoly organisation or a particular Government. What the S.T.C. does is to

[Shri Kanungo]

ask the Small Industries Corporation to supply them the goods. The S.T.C. is a trading organisation and not a manufacturing organisation. It has got to buy shoes from the somebody and the best way to buy goods manufactured by the small man is to have it done through the Small Industries Corporation. It also buys from established factories which are under the Development Wing; because they have got their own system of inspection, they can easily handle goods in large bulk. But, when we go in for small manufacturers, the S.T.C. have to have an agency which would ensure that goods of the right specifications and at the right price are available to them. The point mentioned by Shri Braj Raj Singh was why the S.T.C. should buy only from the Corporation of from a few contractors and why not from others. S.T.C. is prepared to buy from anybody provided he has got the experience in the trade and is able to satisfy the S.T.C. that he will take the risk of rejections, will adhere to timely performance of the contract and the rigid specifications as desired by the importing agency.

Several times in this House questions have been asked why several thousand pairs of shoes were rejected. That price has got to be paid by somebody. You cannot expect the small man to do that. It is impossible. The S.T.C. hung on to the stock and, ultimately, has been able to liquidate that stock, possibly with a loss—I do not know. It must be at a loss. Therefore, I would say that the S.T.C. being a trading organisation cannot have its own organisation as a manufacturing organisation. It has to depend upon reliable suppliers who will take the risk and will ensure the supply of the right type of goods.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: I never said that the S.T.C. should take up the work of manufacture. I only said that sub-agencies should not be there in between the S.T.C. and the suppliers. The goods should be brought directly from the manufacturer or the association of manufacturers.

Shri Kanungo: The S.T.C. being an organisation cannot buy from small men but can buy from agents who will ensure that the right type of goods at the right price are supplied. Therefore, they have the agents today. They have the Small Industries Corporation. Besides that, if any private agency is available and is able to satisfy the conditions about price and other things, certainly, the S.T.C. would go in for it.

Lastly, I would take the point mentioned by Shri Tyagi. There is no shortage of capital. Being a trading organisation, as the hon. Members would have noticed, with an authorised capital of about Rs. 2 crores they have been doing business of more than several crores. Capital is not the consideration. It is a question of having the ability and the knack of doing things. I believe, in course of time, the S.T.C. will acquire this ability and other qualities. Until the Parliament directs otherwise, the S.T.C.'s hands are limited. It is because they are not expected to supplant the normal lines of trade. Wherever they have gone in for canalisation or otherwise, it is for a temporary period. It is expected that when normal conditions prevail they will withdraw from those lines.

17·41 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, the 23rd December, 1960/Pausa 2, 1882 (Saka).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS . . . 6963—7006

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1065	Non-scheduled permits to private Air Companies	6991—95
1067	Damages due to rain on S. Railway.	6995—97
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8	Indians in Addis Ababa	6999—7000
9	Utilisation of Natural Gas from Naharkatiya Oil Fields	7000—04
10	Purchase of sugar by the U.S.A.	7005—06

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS . . . 7006—65

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1063	Welfare Committees in P & T Deptt.	7007
1066	Dredging problems	7007—08
1069	Air strip at Tirupathi	7008
1070	Restaurant at Dum Dum Airport	7008—09
1071	Tampering with Railway track near Maniharighat	7009
1072	Stopage of booking on S.E. Railway	7009—10
1073	Haldia-Khargpur line	7010
1074	Potato seeds in Himachal Pradesh	7011—12
1075	Agricultural Commission	7012
1076	Steel for Rangapur Road bridge (Andhra Pradesh)	7012—13

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—*contd.*

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1077	Derailment near Pipalia Station	7013
1078	Firing in train	7013
1079	Khosla Committee Report	7014

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2225	Medical personnel	7014—15
2226	Purshase of rice and wheat from Madhya Pradesh	7015
2227	Production of edible groundnut cake and flour	7015
2228	Mobile medical units	7016
2229	Overbridge at Ambala	7016
2230	Agricultural Development in Delhi	7016—17
2231	Income at Dera Baba Nanak and Qadian Stations	7017
2232	Family Planning Centres in Punjab	7017
2233	Irrigation and Power potential of Indian rivers	7017—18
2234	Jammu-Srinagar National Highway	7018—19
2235	D.V.C. Irrigation revenues	7019
2236	Accident at Sonepur-Gandak bridge	7019—20
2237	Telephone connections	7020
2238	Air service to Colombo	7021
2239	Family Planning	7021
2240	Over-bridges and under-bridges	7021—22
2241	Cold storages	7022
2242	Cluster type Training Institutions	7022—23
2243	Foreigners in air services	7023
2244	Bus accidents in Himachal Pradesh	7023—24
2245	Advancing of loans in Himachal Pradesh	7024—25
2246	Electric locomotives	7025
2247	Block Development Committees in Gujerat	7025—26
2248	Detention of good at Sabarmati station	7026—27
2249	Railway quarters on Western Railway	7027—28
2250	Late running of trains	7028
2251	Minor ports	7028—[illegible]

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—*contd.*

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2252	Pasteurization plant in Madurai	7029–30
2253	Goose incubation centre in West Bengal	7030
2254	Sweepers of Tundla station	7030–31
2255	Bridge near Rameshwaram	7031–32
2256	Sugar factories	7032
2257	Calcutta Port Commission	7032–33
2258	Availability of water in Gujerat	7033–34
2259	Compensation for land acquired by S.E. Railway	7034–35
2260	Passengers thrown out of trains on S.E. Railway	7035
2261	Road tax on Vaspa scooters	7035–36
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2263	Train examiners	7037
2264	Train examiners	7037–38
2265	Suffocation of Railway workers in Delhi	7038
2266	Theft of goods on Railways	7038–39
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2268	Circular Railway in Madras	7040
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2270	Change of sex	7040–41
2271	Upgrading of telephone operators	7041
2272	Kundah project	7042
2273	Main clock in New Delhi Railway Station	7042
2274	Regional offices at Waltair and Kharagpur	7043
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2277	New Station between Bhanupli and Nangal Dam	7044
2278	International Telegraph Office	7044–45
2279	Kavali canal scheme	7045
2280	Propaganda against Family planning	7045–46
2281	Level-crossings in Bikaner Division	7046–47
2282	Central Storage Depot, Kanpur	7047–48
2283	Lahori Gate contractor	7048–49
2284	Enginering Department of Madurai Division	7049
2285	National Highway No. 7	7049–50
2286	Pension facilities to retired railway employees	7050–51
2287	Agricultural production	7051
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2291	Central Fertilizers pool	7053
2292	Electrical Department of N. Railway	7053–54
2293	Acquisition of land for Railway in West Bengal	7054
2294	Dietary atlas of India	7054–55
2295	Visit of Amercian Farmers	7055–56
2296	Arbitration for Settlement of disputes on Railways	7056
2297	Loss of Insured Parcel from Post Office	7056–57
2298	Flood Control Scheme in Orissa	7057–58
2299	District Telegraph Office, Palghat	7058
2300	Cremation ground near Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi	7058–59
2301	Salem—Bangalore Rail link	7059
2302	World Health Assembly in Delhi	7059–60
2303	P. & T. Building, Pithorgarh	7060
2304	Insect Parasitology	7060–61
2305	Tulihal aerodrome (Imphal)	7061–62
2306	Imphal Municipality	7062
2307	Rice and paddy production in Manipur	7062–63
2308	Procurement of rice and paddy in Manipur	7063
2309	Imphal Civil Hospital	7063
2310	Train-truck collision near Dikom	7064
2311	Carriage and wagon workshop, Lucknow	7064–65

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 7066–67

The following papers were laid on the Table :—

(1) A copy of note dated the 29th April, 1959 by Prof. J.K. Galbraith entitled "Some notes on the Rationale of Indian Economic Organisation".

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—*contd.* COLUMNS

(2) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 1440 dated th 3rd December, 1960 making certain amendment to the Bombay Sugar (Export Control) Order, 1959, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA . . . . 7067—68

Secretary reported the following messages from Rajya Sabha:—

(*i*) That Rajya Sabha has no recommendations to make to Lok Sabha with regard to the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Bill, 1960.

(*ii*) That Rajya Sabha had concurred in the recommendation of Lok Sabha to join in the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Maternity Benefit Bill, 1960, and had nominated 15 members to serve on the said Joint Committee.

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES . 7068—70

(*i*) The minutes of the sittings (Seventy-second to Seventy-sixth) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions held during the Twelfth Session were laid on the Table.

(*ii*) The minutes of the Twenty-second sitting of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House held during the Twelfth Session were laid on the Table.

(*iii*) The minutes of the sittings (Forty-eighth to Fiftieth) of the Committee on Petitions held during the Twelfth Session were laid on the Table.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS PRESENTED 7070

Eleventh Report was presented.

REPORT OF ESTIMATES COMMITTEE PRESENTED 7070

Hundred and Second Report was presented.

COLUMNS

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE . 7071

Shri Raghunath Singh called the attention of the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel to the reported discovery of oil at Rudrasagar, Assam.

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya) made a statement in regard thereto.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER 7071—75

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K.D. Malaviya) made a statement regarding discussions with E.N.I's Team.

BILL UNDER CONSIDERATION . . . 7075—7167

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali) moved that the Children Bill, as passed by the Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration. The discussion was not concluded.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS . . . . 7168—94

(*i*) Shri K. T. K. Tangamani raised a half-an hour discussion on points arising out of the answer given on the 2nd December, 1960 to Starred Question No. 636 regarding implementation of Election Commission recommendations.

The Minister of Law (Shri Asoke K. Sen) replied to the debate.

(*ii*) Shri Surendra Mahanty raised a half-an-hour discussion on points arising out of the answer given on the 8th December, 1960 to Starred Question No. 784 regarding State Trading Corporation.

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Nityanand Kanungo) replied to the debate.

AGENDA FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1960/PAUSA/2, 1882 (SAKA)—

Further discussion on the motion to consider and passing of the Children Bill, as passed by Rajya Sabha, consideration and passing of the Telegraphs Law (Amendment) Bill, the British Statutes (Application to India) Repeal Bill, as passed by Rajya Sabha, the Repealing and Amending Bill, as passed by Rajya Sabha and consideration of Private Members' Bills.

GMGIPND—LS II—1685 (Ai) LS—31-12-60—901.